

The
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST
 for RETAILER - WHOLESALER - MANUFACTURER



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JULY 8, 1944

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'Bisurated' Magnesia

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THE PHYSICIANS' REMEDY

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**Single
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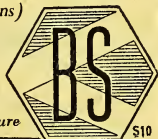
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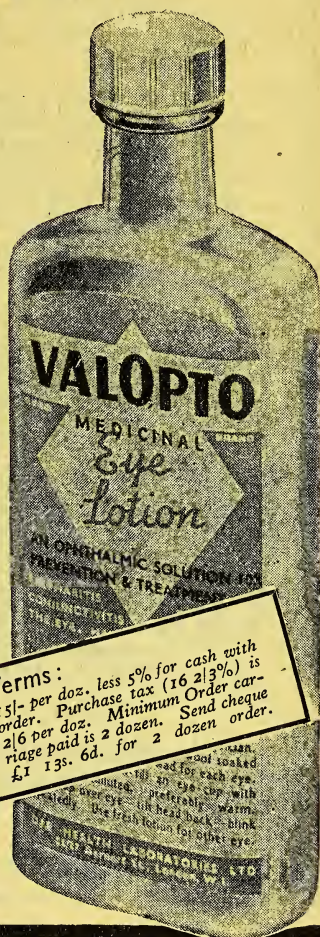
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P.A.T.A.

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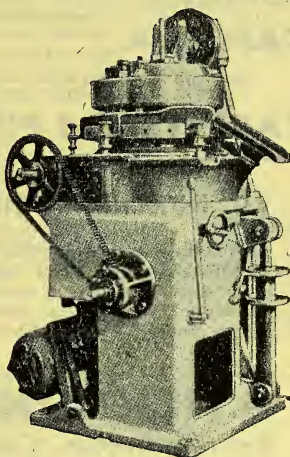
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The Manesty range of Tablet Machines is the most modern and efficient, and the large powerful modern ones such as the No. 2 and the R.S.I. (illustrated below) will produce heavyweight tablets at astonishing speed.

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Manesty Machines are made entirely by us and are 100 per cent. British.

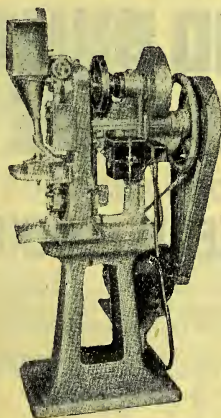
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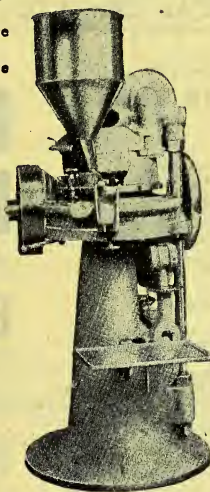
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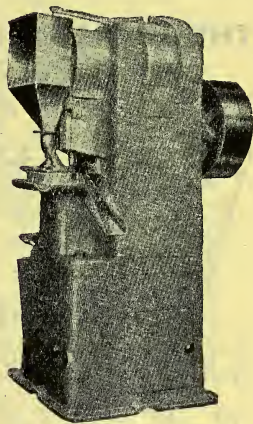
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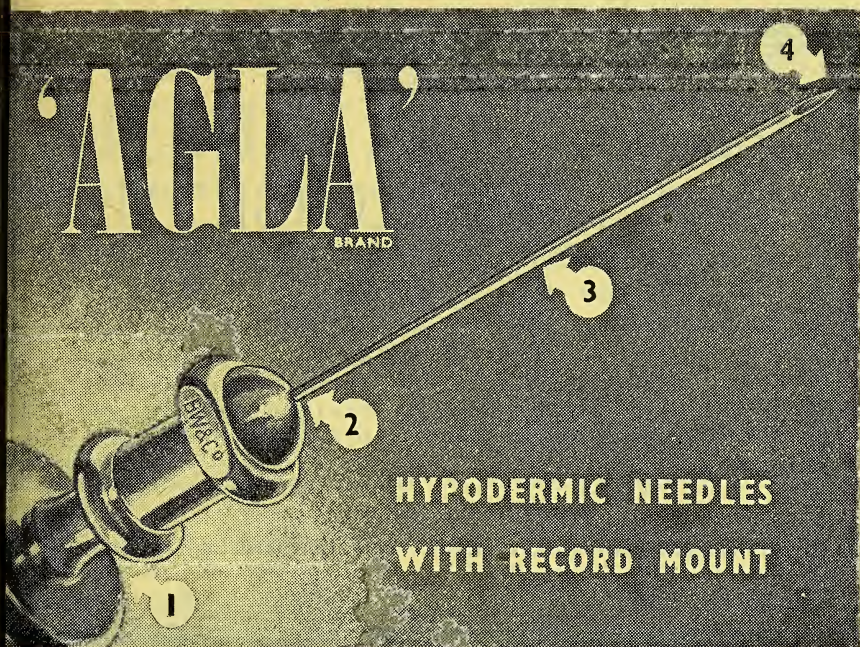
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NEWS OF THE WEEK

Colloid Science Lectures Postponed.—The course of lectures arranged by the Oil and Colour Chemists' Association (London section) to take place on July 6, 20, and 27 (see *C. & D.*, June 17, p. 638) has been postponed.

Tax on Lipstick Holders.—The Commissioners of Customs and Excise announce that in future lipstick holders of all kinds, whatever material, will be regarded as toilet requisites chargeable with purchase tax at 100 per cent.

London M.O.H. Arrangements.—The Deputy Medical Officer of Health to the London County Council (Dr. Andrew Ridding) resigned on March 31 and the position is not at present being filled, but Mr. R. C. Harkness will act for Sir Allen Daley, the M.O.H., in his absence. A third principal medical officer is to be appointed on a temporary war-time basis.

Chemists' Sundries for South Africa.—Estimates by the Union of South Africa for the supply of chemists' sundries to the

Dominion have been approved by the Combined Planning Authorities, whose decision provides for the supply from the United Kingdom of all requirements except air rings, pessaries (check and combination fluid), capsules (empty gelatin), pessaries (Dutch cap), douches, whirling sprays, preventives, enemas (Higginson) and hot-water bottles. Certificates of Essentiality for chemists' sundries under the 1944 programme, which are in the possession of British exporters, may now be put into operation. A full list of items affected is available through the South African section of the London Chamber of Commerce.

Guild of Public Pharmacists.—At the 100th meeting of the council of the Guild of Public Pharmacists, held in London on June 11, suitable reference was made to the reaching of a century of such meetings. The following officers were then elected for the year: *President*, Mr. R. H. Henriksen; *Vice-president*, Mr. D. Currie; *Treasurer*,

Mr. D. H. S. Cox; *Registrar*, Mr. A. G. Shaw; *Insurance Registrar*, Mr. J. H. Wood. Mr. Wood, having previously intimated his inability to continue to act as secretary, formally tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret. It was unanimously agreed that a record of the council's appreciation of his work as secretary during the past three years should be recorded in the minutes. Mr. J. Moore agreed to act *pro tem*. Until further notice, therefore, all correspondence for the secretary should be addressed to Mr. J. Moore, Ph.C., Pharmaceutical Department, Guy's Hospital, London, S.E.1.

Manchester Juniors to Issue News Sheet.

—At a meeting on June 29, the Junior Branch of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association decided to issue a local news-sheet for posting to friends in H.M. Forces.

Newcastle Women Pharmacists.—At a meeting of the Newcastle Branch of the National Association of Women Pharmacists, held on June 28, a lecture on "Blood Transfusion" was given by Mrs. Holland. A business discussion followed, after which tea and refreshments were served by the hostesses, Misses Bell and Carter.

Yorkshire Public Pharmacists.—A meeting of the Yorkshire Branch of the Guild of Public Pharmacists, held recently at the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, was addressed by Dr. R. M. Heggie (assistant county pathologist) on "Burns and their Treatment, with Special Reference to their Bacteriology." Mr. A. M. Stephenson (chief pharmacist, Pinderfields Hospital) presided.

The Call-up in Birmingham.—During the year ended May 31, nineteen pharmacists and two dispensers have been given final deferment, as recommended by the district pharmaceutical war committee, fifty-seven cases of drug hands have been referred to the committee by the Man-Power Board, and fifty-three of them have been supported for various periods of deferment. The Central Pharmaceutical War Committee submitted a list of suggested redundant staff, and the Committee considered that not more than four pharmacists and sixteen dispensers could be transferred without seriously threatening a breakdown in the pharmaceutical service in the area.

Penicillin Lecture at Coventry.—"The Story of Penicillin," illustrated by lantern slides, was told by Mr. A. L. Bacharach (chief chemist, Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd.) to members of the Coventry Branch of the National Pharmaceutical Union, members

of the medical profession and guests from neighbouring towns, at Coventry on June 29. There were also present Councillors J. C. Lee, Gordon (Clerk to the Coventry Insurance Committee), Mr. W. B. M. Wyle (managing director, Wyleys, Ltd.), and Mr. G. Pinchbeck (chief chemist of the company). Mr. W. A. Bales presided. The speaker outlined the development of penicillin in this country from its discovery by Professor Fleming in 1909 to the subsequent work of Professor Florey at Oxford from 1928 onwards, and concluded by summarising the advantages and disadvantages of penicillin in practical use. The speaker was heartily thanked upon the motion of Mr. C. DAVIS, Leamington Spa, seconded by Mr. H. S. LINTON, Coventry.

Proprietary Medicines in Edinburgh Hospitals.

—In a report on the purchase of proprietary medicines in municipal hospitals in Edinburgh, the Medical Officer of Health mentioned recently a statement by the chief pharmacist that proprietary articles accounted for approximately 10 per cent. of drugs used in the city's hospitals. The use of such medicines in hospitals, said the M.O.H., was unavoidable, but no proprietary medicine was introduced except under permission from a medical superintendent or the head of one of the various units. An instruction was being issued to hospitals under the control of the Public Health Committee that proprietary medicines should be ordered through the chief pharmacist, who would then have the opportunity of suggesting an alternative if any were available. The report also made reference to the arrangements for issuing supplies of insulin to diabetic subjects, and described the steps taken to recover part of the cost from patients able to contribute.

Presentation to Wolverhampton Chemists.

—Wolverhampton pharmacists, at a social evening on June 29, expressed their appreciation of the services of Alderman J. Coleman, M.P.S., 7 Worcester Street, Wolverhampton, to the local Chemists' Association by presenting him with a cheque and Mrs. Coleman with a bouquet. Mr. A. A. C. Whick presided. Alderman Coleman, who set up in business fifty years ago, was the first secretary of the local Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society formed under the chairmanship of the late Mr. F. J. Gibson in 1900, and again from 1913 until his resignation in December 1939. He was also secretary of the Pharmaceutical Committee. In making the presentation, Mr. C. M. WARNER (chairman of

armaceutical services subcommittee) laid stress on the value of Mr. Coleman's work on behalf of local pharmacists. MESSRS. FROST (Alderman Coleman's successor in office) and D. J. THORNTON (Clerk of the Insurance Committee) also paid tribute to him, the latter complimenting Wolverhampton chemists for their service under the Insurance Act. In reply, ALDERMAN COLEMAN said that, although he had retired from the secretaryship, he remained an officer of the Association, having been appointed auditor. THE CHAIRMAN took the opportunity to announce that as the result of a dance held in March in aid of pharmaceutical charities, £87 had been divided between the Pharmaceutical Society's Benevolent and War Aid Funds. It was the committee's aim, he said, to secure for Wolverhampton the lead at present held by Cheltenham.

Birmingham Analyst's Report.—During the first quarter of 1944, 1,390 samples were examined by the Birmingham City Analyst. A sample of borax was shown to contain 25 parts per million of arsenic, five times the B.P. limit. Three samples of borax and honey were found to contain 3 per cent., 13.0 per cent., and 7.0 per cent. respectively of borax, instead of 0.5 per cent. A sample of iodised formalin tablets, labelled as containing 0.91 per cent. paraformaldehyde, was found to contain only 0.26 per cent. The makers stated that the tablets in question had formerly been packed in specially-designed tins, which prevented loss of aldehyde, but these were now unobtainable. Another sample of P.C. formalin tablets was found to contain no paraformaldehyde. A second sample from stock contained 7 mgm. per tablet. A sample of Parrish's chemical food gave an abnormally low figure for specific rotation after inversion, indicating the presence of about 5 per cent. glucose syrup or dextrose and 65 per cent. sucrose and invert sugar, whereas the sugars present should consist entirely of sucrose and invert sugar to a total amount of 7 per cent. The firm concerned wrote to say that only the purest cane sugar had been used, and no glucose. A sample of petroleum emulsion was recommended as an anti-tubercular tonic, contrary to the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941; it contained 51.7 per cent. of liquid paraffin, against a maximum of 25 per cent. allowed under the Paraffin Emulsion Order, 1941; and was stated to contain the equivalent of 0.92 per cent. w/v of hypophosphorous acid, when only 0.78 per cent. was permitted.

PARLIAMENTARY NEWS

Empire Tooth-brush Requirements.—In a reply given on June 28, the secretary of the Department of Overseas Trade said that requirements of the Empire for tooth-brushes could not all be met from this country at present. Part of the requirements was accordingly being met from the United States through ordinary commercial channels. The Brush Export Group had been kept informed.

Taxation Relief for Research.—Sir John Anderson (Chancellor of the Exchequer), who replied to the debate in the House of Commons on the third reading of the Finance Bill on June 30, said that his reason for giving special taxation relief for research was that, apart from a desire to do everything he could to make industry more research-minded, he had in mind that research, to a large extent, produced results which were not limited to those who undertook the research and were spread over a long period. "Unless research is undertaken without too close a regard to the immediate effects that may accrue," he said, "we shall go without a great deal of fundamental general research." The 20 per cent. which he contemplated allowing on taxed income towards expenditure on plant and machinery would give direct encouragement to such expenditure. The Bill was read a third time.

Corks for Soft Drinks.—On June 28, Sir George Broadbridge asked the Minister of Food whether he was aware that the Soft Drinks Industries (War-time) Association had issued an order to its members prohibiting the use of ordinary corks for squashes, alleging that ordinary corks were not satisfactory as a reclosure, although they had been used for soft drinks for over a century; and that many of their members objected to this prohibition, which was a violation of an Order. The Minister of Food replied that he was aware that the Association had instructed its members not to use plain driven corks, without tops, in packing squashes for the Association. This action was not a contravention of the Containers and Packaging Order (No. 404, 1944), and Colonel Llewellyn said he saw no reason to intervene.

Another New Bactericide?—The discovery of a new bactericide is reported from America. The drug, known as tyrothricin, is said to be derived from soil, but its use appears to be confined to external application.

IRISH NOTES

N. Ireland Examination Results.—In the Final Qualifying examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland held recently, the following candidates were successful: Margaret Heney, Patrick Hudson, Sarah Irwin, Margaret Jones, John Judge, Francis Kerrin, Samuel Moore, John Mullin, John McBride, Robert McCotter, John McCusker, John A. McIntyre, Bridget O'Doherty, J. O'Hanlon, Eda Patterson, Margaret Reynolds, James Wilson.

Belfast Galen Chapter.—A Galen Royal Arch Chapter (No. 437) was constituted in Masonic Hall, 9 College Square North, Belfast, on June 23. Amongst foundation members are the following well-known local pharmaceutical chemists: Messrs. Joseph Ritchie, James McDowell, William Esler and P. R. W. Skinner, all of Belfast, and Messrs. Hugh Crail, Holywood, co. Down. Mr. J. C. Gaw is treasurer. The new Chapter is in connexion with the Galen Masonic Lodge founded by chemists in 1918.

Research Progress in Eire.—Mr. de Valera, who moved in the Dail Eireann, recently, an estimate for the Emergency Scientific Research Bureau, said that arrangements had been made to produce potassium chlorate on a large scale. A full-scale plant for the production of ether from alcohol had been erected by the alcohol factories, and investigations were being made into methods of purifying the ether and rendering it suitable for medical purposes. Work was in progress on the production of organic industrial solvents, and it was anticipated that locally produced hypochlorite solution would be available to replace imported chlorine products required for water purification.

Gaelic Football.—The recently formed Chemists' Gaelic Athletic Association Club met in Dublin on June 12 to elect a permanent committee and officers. Mr. P. C. Cahill presided. Discussion took place on how the Club's team would be graded, and it was decided to play in Division II of the Senior League, Dublin Senior Football Championship. Mr. P. C. Cahill was elected *President*, with Mr. C. J. Cremen as *Vice-president*. Other officers elected were Messrs. Peter Rosney, *Chairman*; Peter Leyden, *Club Secretary*; Seamus Fox, *Team Secretary and Treasurer*; T. J. Banks, *Captain*; T. O'Keefe, *Vice-captain*. To help raise funds for the black and amber jerseys, which the team will wear, a sweepstake is being run on the Golden

Jubilee Handicap, for which the draw will be held on July 19. The first prize is £5, and books of tickets can be had from any of the officers of the Club, or by post from Mr. Peter Rosney, c/o Dargan's Pharmacy, 26 Berkley Street, Dublin. Already the chemists' team has played two matches against Ard Craobh and won on each occasion. Football has been presented by Mr. P. Cahill, and subscriptions received to date are: C. J. Cremen, £2 2s.; G. C. O'Neil, £1 1s.; anonymous, £1 1s.; Seamus Murphy, Ph.C., 10s.

Annual Three-day Golf.—The Irish Chemists' Golfing Society held its annual three-day outing at Greenore, co. Louth, June 4-6. Results were: Sunday morning 18-holes bogey: F. J. Roche (8), 1 down; Brendan R. Smith (6), 4 down; M. Costelloe (9), 4 down; J. Daly (15), 5 down. Sunday evening, four-ball bogey: S. Savage and J. A. Hurson, 2 up; B. R. Smith and J. J. Roche, 2 down; F. J. Roche and P. C. Cahill, 5 down. Monday morning Captain's prize (18-holes strokes): Gillen (18), 71; M. Costelloe (8), 73; Gilmartin (8), 74; B. R. Smith (4), 75. Best net, Class I: F. J. Roche (7), 70; Class II: J. J. Roche (17), 77; Class III: F. Keys (23), 80. Monday evening, four-ball bogey: B. R. Smith and F. Keys, 1 up; J. Lynch and P. Fullam, 1 down; J. Roche and J. Murray, 2 down. Tuesday morning, 18-holes strokes: S. J. Savage (18), 76; A. Maher (7), 76; F. Keys (22), 77; H. Naylor (18), 78. Tuesday evening Scotch foursomes (14-holes strokes): Daly and H. McDevitt (18), 54; S. J. Savage and J. J. Roche (9), 55; J. Gilmartin and W. R. Such, 56½. The captain (Mr. S. J. Savage) presided at a dinner held at the Greenore hotel on Tuesday evening at which he handed Mr. Cahill (treasurer of the Pharmaceutical Society's Benevolent Fund) a cheque for £5 5s. on behalf of members. Mr. J. F. O'Hara, Trim, proposed the toast "The Chemists' Golfing Society." "Our Guests" was proposed by Mr. Cahill, and responded to by Messrs. Tohill, Larkin, and Lyall Smith. Mr. M. Leonard toasted "The Donors of Prizes," and Messrs. W. R. Such (Evans Sons Lescher Webb, Ltd.) and Joe Lynch (Lilmar Manufacturing Co., Ltd.), replied. Mr. F. Keys proposed the toast of the Greenore Golf Club and Hotel, to which Mr. Holliswood and Miss O'Loughlin replied. A musical programme followed.

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

crowded Programmes

In the course of a practical and well-reported discussion at Blackburn (pp. 12-13), Mr. R. Turnbull remarked that "people are finding it difficult to follow their many duties." We need not look further than No. 18 of the same issue of the *C. & D.*, where the possibility of a breakdown in a County National Health Insurance service is indicated, to find a case in point. While a patriotic citizen will consider for a moment any suggestion of "sitting back" and leaving things to others, it is wise to have regard to the effects of prolonged strain on physical and mental powers. The recent experience of a successful business man still in middle life may be helpful. Beginning with A.R.P. duties, he extended his commitments of this kind till he was engaged in official work during the day and was lecturing almost every evening: The result has been a tedious illness followed by the cutting down of his work by about 50 per cent. Several of your readers (allowing for the fact that proprietors of pharmacies cannot leave their shops for long at a time) may be in like circumstances. At some period or periods of life many of us are apt to overrate our capacity for resistance to wear and tear, especially when the mental and physical powers appear to be in a happy equilibrium. The experience of medical practitioners is, I gather, that it is folly to force the pace beyond the common-sense safety limit.

Saturn

A reference to the association of Saturn with lead (p. 26) opens a door or a window into a profoundly interesting study—the origin of this and similar efforts of primitive mankind to evolve systems of what we now usually call magic. The question may be taken back beyond classical times to the beginnings of civilisation. In view of the unresolved differences of anthropologists—disclosed, for instance, in Professor Eliot Smith's "The Diffusion of Culture"—I must walk warily and avoid anything so indiscreet as an hypothesis. On p. 360 of his "Garnered Sheaves" (1931) the late Sir James Frazer refers to "the Roman *Salii*, the dancing or leaping priests of the war-god Mars, who . . . danced or leaped while they invoked Saturn, the God of Sowing"; and he draws a parallel between this ritual and the modern Bantu custom of holding a ceremonial dance when a certain kind of grain is being reaped. When

and why was the patronage of Saturn first extended from agriculture to lead? Some brilliant student in this great field may have hit on a likely answer. Plausible explanations of the rôles of the sun and moon in mythology have been advanced, but I am not aware that much research has been carried out on the tutelary functions of their accompanying planets. The matter is complicated by the fact that culture did not necessarily develop on parallel lines in different countries. Early experiments in smelting and working metals may well have taken various courses conditioned by the nature of the ores available and other factors. It may be recalled that it was by means of a casket of "meagre lead" that Shakespeare's Bassanio won his heiress.

During the Regency

In an entertaining book by Dorothy M. Stuart, "Regency Roundabout" (1943), there are a few references to the pharmacy and medicine of 1811-20. The author's material, obtained from newspapers and other sources, is arranged under subject-headings, two of which are allotted respectively to commerce and the medical profession. Among the names of business men appears that of "Mr. Speed, druggist, of Cannon Street," who had "a most curious and elegant collection of shells." He was evidently a member of the firm of Richard and Thomas Speed, chemists and druggists, established in the eighteenth century and occupying premises successively in Old Fish Street and Cannon Street. Medical eccentrics include Andrew Marshall, a Scottish surgeon who had a varied and sometimes turbulent career. At a meeting of a scientific society a dispute between him and John Hunter culminated in Marshall's emptying the contents of a bottle of water over the famous anatomist's wig. Notwithstanding the handicap of an irascible temperament, he carried on what is described as a successful private practice for twelve years. We are told that a consciousness of his irritability, "coupled with growing reluctance either to give or receive offence, made his deportment at once awkward and ceremonious." It is a little remarkable that, with this *flair* for the picturesque, Miss Stuart has not mentioned James Gregory, M.D. (1758-1822), whose relations with his professional colleagues afford mirthful reading; and that in dealing with the lot of assistants in retail shops she has ignored the custom of "living in." **Xrayser**

LEGAL REPORTS

Gelatin Conviction Quashed.—At Preston Sessions, on June 27, an appeal by Ross Gelatines, Ltd., Leeds, against a conviction by Preston magistrates (see *C. & D.*, March 18, p. 302) for alleged false warranty in a sale of powdered gelatin in which they were fined £10, with advocate fees totalling £125 5s. and £15 expenses, was allowed, with costs. Quashing the conviction, the Court ordered that the costs in the police court proceedings should be set aside, the parties to bear their own costs.

£95 Fine for D.D. Offences.—For failing to keep dangerous drugs and preparations in a locked receptacle which could be opened only by himself or a qualified assistant, Harris Levi, M.P.S., Blackfriars Road, Salford, was fined £50, with £5 5s. costs, at Salford police court, on July 3, and he was fined a further £45 on seven charges of failing to enter particulars in the appropriate registers of five dangerous drugs supplied to him and two supplied by him. He pleaded guilty to all the summonses. Evidence was given that when a detective inspector and a constable paid a routine visit of inspection to Levi's shop on June 6 they found an eighteen-year-old apprentice in sole charge. The dangerous drugs receptacle was unlocked and partly open. Levi did not return until three hours later, when he said he had been to a relative's wedding. He produced a small padlock from among some papers and had difficulty in selecting the right key from his key-ring. Asked where a bottle of concentrated tincture of camphorated opium was, which had been supplied to him by his wholesalers in May, he produced it, with another partly filled bottle, from an open shelf. Certain entries relating to dangerous drugs supplied to a doctor had not been made in the appropriate registers at the time of the officers' visit, it was added, though they were entered afterwards. While there had been a good deal of carelessness, he was not going to argue that it was a very bad case. For Levi, it was stated that he had been in business twenty-five years and there had never been a complaint against him at any of the numerous previous inspections. The other offences were matters of neglect and not of omission; Levi, "an elderly and ailing man," could not get a qualified assistant, and in the pressure of a twelve-hour day he made notes of the drugs ready for entering in the registers when he had a moment to spare. His assistant had strict instructions not to touch any drugs

and no harm had been done. The stipendiary magistrate said he had been influenced by the fact that there had been no previous complaint against Levi.

Government Analyst's Methods Criticised.—Derby borough magistrates recently dismissed a charge against Arthur, Jacob Hyman, and Solomon Liss, Lisbro House, Gillespie Road, London, N., of giving false warranty with sweetening tablets supplied by them, but agreed to state case for appeal. The action first came before the Court in November 1943, and was based on a certificate by the Derby county analyst that the tablets were 18 per cent deficient in dulcin and 25 per cent saccharin. An adjournment was ordered to enable the magistrates to take the advice of a Government chemist, who first certified that there was 0.014 per cent, less than the minimum of saccharin and 0.004 per cent, less than the minimum of dulcin, but who, on being approached concerning the methods of analysis, gave a certificate that there was a deficiency of not less than 9 per cent. of saccharin and not less than 16 per cent. of dulcin. For the prosecution, Mr. A. Exton (town clerk's department) was asked to be allowed to call another public analyst (Mr. J. Graham Sherratt) to confirm the original findings, but the Bench decided that this evidence could not be admitted as the adjournment had been solely for the purpose of consulting the Government chemist. Counsel for defence stigmatised the course adopted by the prosecution as approaching the Government chemist as a violation of rules, the Bench alone having that right. He submitted that there was no evidence that Messrs. Liss knew or had reason to believe the warranty was false. Sidney Bartle (supervisor of the production of the tablets) said that all commercial reasonable precautions were taken to ensure that the warranty was complied with. The suppliers of the ingredients gave warranty of purity. C. E. Corfield, Ph.D. (Harrison & Self, analysts, London), said the percentage deficiency of saccharin was 8 and of dulcin 6. The variations were not excessive, and the tablets complied with the standard, within reasonable limits, and must be considered genuine. He contended that the methods of analysis followed by the Government chemist were wrong. He had, for instance, used an accepted process for determining the dulcin in the material which he separated, but he had not employed an accepted process of separation

COMPANY NEWS

JOHN BUTCHER, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Manufacturing and dispensing chemists, etc. John and Mary Butcher, directors. R.O.: 131 Church Street, Hackpool.

SCOTTISH AGENCIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £500. General merchants (medical, chemical, optical, perfumery, etc.). B. Rennie and Michael Lee, directors. R.O.: 5 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

BEAUTISALES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £200. Agents for marketing toilet and chemists' preparations, etc. Directors to be appointed. R.O.: New Gallery House, 6 Gough Street, London, W.1.

ERIC D. SINGER (CHEMOTEX), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Manufacturing and general chemists, oil and colourmen, etc. Directors to be appointed. R.O.: 1 Laurence Pountney Hill, London, E.C.4.

CONSOLIDATED INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £300. Manufacturing and research chemists, etc. Directors to be appointed. Solicitors: Wallingham, Ormond & Maddox, 1 New Square, London, W.C.2.

PERSONALITY BEAUTY PRODUCTS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £20,000. Manufacturers of and dealers in soap, cosmetics, etc. Directors to be appointed. Solicitors: Kenneth Brown Baker Baker, Essex House, Essex Street, London, W.C.2.

MIDLAND HEALTH AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £500. Wholesale and retail dealers in foods, drugs, patent medicines, etc. Reginald F. Brown and John L. Northbridge, directors. Solicitors: Blackburn & Co., Sheffield.

JANALD, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical products, toilet preparations, etc. Ronald W. Grinstead, M.P.S., and Jane G. Grinstead, directors. R.O.: 10 High Street, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey.

CHEMICAL EXCHANGE (U.K.), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £2,000. Wholesale and retail exporters and importers of chemicals and drugs, etc. Lieutenant-Colonel St. J. Arthur-Browne, M.B.E., Harold E. Armfield, and Desmond B. Hirshfield, directors. R.O.: Norwich House, 13 Southampton Place, London, W.C.1.

GEORGE DRUCE & Co., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Manufacturers of cameras, lenses, optical and surgical instruments, hospital equipment, etc. George S. Druce,

Agnes Winder, and George A. Druce, directors. R.O.: 247 Regent Street, W.1.

GEO. E. GREEN (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. Chemists, herbalists, drug merchants, dealers in toilet requisites, opticians, etc. George E. Green, M.P.S., and Horace Miles, M.P.S., directors. R.O.: Parade Pharmacy, 35 London Road, Southborough, Kent.

BRITISH PHOTOGRAPHIC INDUSTRIES, LTD.—At an extraordinary general meeting and at the subsequent meetings of the preference and ordinary shareholders, capital reorganisation proposals were carried by substantial majorities. The proposals involved the conversion of the existing £375,800 of preference share capital into an equivalent nominal amount of ordinary stock, and the writing down of the existing ordinary shares from 6s. 8d. to 1s. each and their subsequent consolidation into £1 stock, so that of the reorganised capital of £405,800 92½ per cent. will be held by the existing preference shareholders. The chairman stated that so long as taxation continued in its present form it should be possible to declare a moderate dividend on the proposed reorganised share capital.

PROTECTION ORDER.—Chilva Laboratories, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, 27 Southleigh Grove, Leeds: Protection Order under the Liabilities (War-time Adjustment) Act, 1941, granted June 8.

APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE FROM BANKRUPTCY.—E. H. Shaw, 66 Hobmoor Road, Small Heath, Birmingham, drug and photographic stores; hearing, at The Court House, Corporation Street, Birmingham, 4, 11.30 a.m. on July 11.

VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP.—An extraordinary general meeting of Mayfair Chemists, Ltd., resolved that the company, should be voluntarily wound up. Mr. Parkin S. Booth, 14-17 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1, was appointed liquidator.

Soviet Rheumatism Serum.—Selected patients at an unnamed hospital in this country are receiving treatment with a serum known as A.C.B. (after its discoverer Professor Bogomoletz) sent from Moscow to the Empire Rheumatism Council. The serum is stated to have been used with success in Russia for bone fractures, arthritis, burns, typhus, peurperal fever, pneumonia and tonsillitis.

TRADE NOTES

Chemists' Overalls.—A list giving styles of overalls at the latest low-coupon rate is available from Ernest Draper & Co., Dept. T, All-British Works, Northampton.

Concession Withdrawn.—Pharmaceutical Specialities (May & Baker), Ltd., Dagenham, announce that the bonus concession of thirteen to the dozen for Zephrol cough syrup, Planacrine lozenges, Scuroform ointment and Ascabiol is being withdrawn from July 7 until further notice.

Price Correction.—In an advertisement by Insecto Manufacturing Co. in last week's issue of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* (p. 21) an error occurred in the figure for discount allowed for payment in one month. The correct terms are 30 per cent. off retail prices, plus 5 per cent. if paid in one month.

Catarrh Snuff for Winter Sales.—Kemsales, Ltd., 20 Eastcheap, London, E.C., urge chemists to obtain supplies now of Besorbon snuff in readiness for the increased demand which will be experienced during the autumn and winter seasons. An attractive display box is offered with orders for quantities of one dozen or more.

Cockroach Killer.—The demand for Hogg's Eetle-roach, a preparation for killing beetles, cockroaches, ants, crickets, steamflies, etc., issued by M. C. Hogg & Co., 91 Upper Brook Street, Manchester, 13, is stated by the makers to be greater than existing supplies, but every effort is being made to secure each dealer a small supply.

Rose-hip Tablets.—A. Wander, Ltd., London, S.W.7, announcing the introduction of Hipexa brand rose-hip tablets, state that they contain the vitamins of fresh ripe rose hips in concentrated, palatable and stable form. Each tablet provides at least 7 mgm. natural vitamin C. Chemical and clinical tests indicate that the recommended dosage of one to two tablets after each meal should make good any deficiency of the vitamin, and of the closely associated vitamin P, that may be caused by shortage of fruits and suitable vegetables.

Small-scale Bottle-cleaning Plant.—Bottle-cleaning problems of small bottling departments are given special attention in the forty-fourth edition of "Bottler's Bulletin" published by the Thomas Hill Engineering Co. (Hull), Ltd., Hull, Yorks, which devotes a quarter of the issue to illustrations of combined soaking, brushing and rinsing machines for operation by a single worker. Small-scale manufacturers, or

retailers with one or more specialities which they bottle themselves, should write to the makers for further particulars of the electrical and belt-driven machines illustrated in the "Bulletin."

Fluorine and Dental Caries.—Calfos, Ltd., London, W.C.2, invite correspondence upon the subject of fluorine and dental caries. The company's preparation Calfos, which is described as a preparation of the natural mineral constituents of bone, for use as extra-dietary source of calcium and phosphorus, also contains a small amount of citric acid and a trace of fluorine. The company has made a special study of the question during the past twenty years, and has recently issued an addendum on the chemical and physical properties of Calfos, which is being brought to the notice of medical and dental professions by advertisements in the professional journals and personal visits, etc.

Distributors for South Wales.—D. Bryan, Ltd., wholesale chemists and druggists' sundriesmen, 7 Mansel Street, Swansea, have taken over the business of Bry Sales Agencies. Mr. William D. Bryan (proprietor of the Agencies) has been appointed a director and manager of the new company. The company's headquarters offices, showrooms and warehouse are in one building and carries large stocks of surgical and clinical appliances and proprietary medicines. The previous warehouse at Uplands, Swansea, has therefore been discontinued. The policy of the company will be to confine distribution to chemists and druggists, and the company will be exclusively wholesale.

Business Changes

THE PUBLIC CONTROL DEPARTMENT of the Middlesex County Council, has removed to County Offices, Great West Road, Brentford (Telephone: Ealing 1801).

LEVER BROS. Co., of America, has acquired the Pepsodent Co. at a cost of \$10,000,000. The company will be operated from Chicago as a separate division of the Lever organisation.

Proprietary Articles Trade Association

Corrections to Protected List.—*Contine Laboratories, Ltd.*, Codoforme-Botol tablets, 20's, retail price, including purchase tax 3s. 4½d.

Rybar Laboratories, Ltd.—Revised prices for Rybar inhaler, published in last week's issue (p. 8), are in abeyance until further notice.

PERSONALITIES

MR. GRANVILLE SHAW, Ph.C., has been elected president of the Long Eaton Literary Club.

MR. HENRY GEORGE PILLING (H. G. Pilling (Chemists), Ltd.), this year's chairman of the Manchester Branch of the National Pharmaceutical Union, served his apprenticeship with Boots, Ltd., commencing in 1915. He qualified in 1923, and after two years' dispensing experience in this country, took up appointments at the Farmacia Roberts in Rome, 1927-28, and at the Pharmacie general in Paris, 1928-29. He returned to his country to establish his own business in 1930.

SIR WAVELE WAKEFIELD, M.P., M.P.S., one of a delegation of Members of Parliament which is shortly to make a tour of South Africa.

ALDERMAN JOSEPH F. COSTELLO, M.P.S.I., has been unanimously elected Mayor of Limerick for the eighth successive year.

ALDERMAN W. J. TRISTRAM (president, Liverpool Chemists' Association) has offered, as chairman of the Liverpool Street Groups Savings Committee, to present a wooden plaque to each winning division.

MR. CECIL JOHN TAYLOR, the independent candidate in the parliamentary by-election in the Rusholme division of Manchester, is a director of C. J. Taylor's Embex, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Carlisle.

MR. J. M. ROWSON, M.Sc., Ph.C., has been appointed head of the pharmacy department, Sunderland Technical College. Mr. Rowson is thirty-three years of age; since 1938 he has lectured in pharmaceutical subjects at Manchester University.

MR. J. A. D'EST EASTES, Brighton Technical College, has been elected a member of the executive of the National Union of Students of the Universities and Colleges of England and Wales. He is believed to be the first pharmacy student to hold such an appointment in the twenty-two years' history of the Union.



SIR THOMAS W. ROBINSON, M.P.S.I. (a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland), celebrated his eightieth birthday on June 25. Sir Thomas is the doyen of Irish pharmacy, and one of the oldest Licentiates on the register. By September he will have been fifty-eight years qualified. He is the principal director of Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson, Ltd., multiple chemists, Dublin, at whose offices at Grafton Street he is to be found at work every day.

C. & D. DISPENSING PRICE LIST

CHANGES in prices during June were few, and the index cost for the month remained unchanged from the figure of 134.8 for the previous month. The corresponding figure in June 1943 was 134.4.

Cost		Due allowance has been made for purchase tax in both cost and dispensing prices	Dispensing price		
d.	per		4 oz.	1 oz.	1 dr.
			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	oz.	Acid. lacticum ..	—	1 0	0 2
22	oz.	Acid. mandelicum ..	—	3 9	0 7
20	lb.	Aqua laurocerasi P. 1 (9)	0 10	0 3	—
9	oz.	Asafetida pulver. ..	—	1 4	0 3
50	oz.	Caffeina ..	—	—	1 2
29	oz.	Caffeinae et sodii benzoas ..	—	4 8	0 8
51	oz.	Caffeinae et sodii iodidum ..	—	—	1 3
29	oz.	Caffeinae et sodii salicylas ..	—	4 8	0 8
33	oz.	Caffeinae citras ..	—	5 4	0 9
66	lb.	Calcii et sodii lactas ..	2 5	0 9	0 2
43	lb.	Calcii lactas ..	1 7	0 7	0 1
264	lb.	Calcii mandelas ..	10 6	3 1	0 6
16	dr.	Ol. cassia ..	—	—	2 4
15	oz.	Ol. crotonis ..	—	—	0 4
61	oz.	Ol. menthae vir. exot. ..	—	—	1 4
27	oz.	Ol. thymi ..	—	4 0	0 7
51	lb.	Pyrethri radices pulvis ..	2 1	0 9	0 2
22	oz.	Sodii mandelas ..	—	3 7	0 7
65	lb.	Sodii sulphas, "pea" ..	0 3	0 2	0 1
7	lb.	Sodii sulphas, "feather" ..	0 3	0 2	0 1
34	lb.	Syr. ferri lactophosph. ..	2 1	0 9	0 2
33	oz.	Theobromina et sod. sal. ..	—	5 4	0 9
48	oz.	Theobromina ..	—	7 8	1 1
15	oz.	Zinci peroxidum (20%) ..	—	2 3	0 4
33	lb.	Æther (technical, vice æther 730) ..	1 2	0 5	—

BIRTH

WELSH.—At Vert Memorial Hospital, Haddington, East Lothian, on June 25, Catherine, the wife of Douglas Welsh, M.P.S., F.B.O.A., Main Street, Longniddry, of a son.

MARRIAGES

CULLEN—MADDEN.—At Howth Catholic Church, on June 28, John Cullen, Stillorgan, co. Dublin, to Odilla Madden, daughter of the late Mr. John Madden, Ph.C., Skibbereen, co. Cork. Miss Madden is one of the directors of the Sutton Pharmacy, Ltd.

JENKINS—COOKSLEY.—At St. George's Church, Hanover Square, London, W.1, recently, Thomas Wyndham Jenkins, M.P.S., 54a Gauden Road, Clapham, London, S.W.4, to Beryl Cooksley, Bridgend Hotel, Ton Pentre. Mr. Jenkins is a pharmacist at Guy's Hospital, London, at which the bride is a dispenser.

LINDSAY—MITCHELL.—At Queen's Hotel, Girvan, on June 28, by the Rev. John Walker, B.D., Girvan, assisted by the Rev. A. M. Douglas, M.A., Maybole, William Stanley Lindsay, M.P.S., only son of Mr. J. Martin W. Lindsay, M.P.S., Balruddery, Maybole, to Elizabeth Foster Mitchell, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Mitchell, 16 Greenside, Girvan.

DEATHS

CORKER.—At the Royal United Hospital, Bath, on July 1, following an operation, Mr. Augustus Edward Strevens (Ted) Corker, aged fifty-one. Mr. Corker was in charge of the make-up department of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and had been in the service of Morgan Bros. (Publishers), Ltd., for thirty-six years, interrupted only by service in the Royal Artillery during the war of 1914-18. He was a member of the 5th Somerset Battalion Home Guard from its commencement in 1940. Mr. Corker leaves a widow and two daughters. He will be greatly missed by the directors and his colleagues on the staff of Messrs. Morgan Bros., by whom he was held in the highest regard and affection. At the funeral, on July 5, the company was represented by Messrs. P. Bax, L. Brown, H. J. Clements, J. R. Goldthorpe (representing the directors, who were unable to attend), G. Harris, A. Shepherd (representing the London staff), and O. H. Waller; and the Pitman Press by Messrs. J. R. Fayers (on behalf of Mr. C. E. Pitman) and A. T. Smith.

A colleague writes: "The sudden and untimely death of A. E. Corker at a compara-

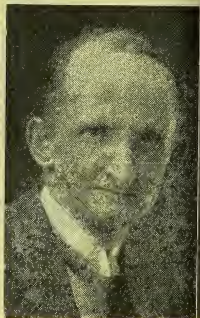
tively early age will have come as a profound shock to everybody who had the privilege of knowing him. Efficient, capable, conscientious, he had the all-too-rare gifts of simplicity, loyalty, courage and honesty in full measure. During nearly thirty-six years of service it can truly be said that he never spared himself either on behalf of his colleagues or the C. & D. He leaves behind nothing but pleasant and abiding memories of a kindly and gentle spirit."

LIVESEY.—At his home, 6 Merwood Grove, Victoria Park, Manchester, on June 22, Mr. George

Samuel Theodore Livesey, M.P.S., aged sixty-six. Mr. Livesey qualified in July 1899. He was a well-known member of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association and local branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, and was consistent in his attendance at meetings. Mr. Livesey commenced his career in pharmacy at fourteen years of age, when he became apprenticed to Mr. W. D. Pollitt, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds; in the late '90's became assistant to Mr. Hirshfield Reynolds Gloucester. He trained at the Manchester (then Turner's) School of Pharmacy, and qualified in 1899. After qualifying he had experience at Harrogate before joining the dispensing department of Mottershead Co., Ltd., in 1904. He remained with that company for thirty-nine years. Mr. Livesey was active in the Masonic brotherhood and a founder of the Epworth Lodge 3921, which recently celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. He was, in fact, looked upon as the "father" of the Lodge, as well as being Past Provincial Assistant Grand Master of Ceremonies. The funeral service which took place at the Manchester Crematorium on June 27, was attended by many colleagues.

TROMAN.—On active service, recently Private Stephen Elgar Troman, M.P.S., 10 Maddocks Street, Shipley, Yorkshire. Private Troman qualified in 1942.

WALKER.—On June 18, Mr. Joseph Walker, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Loughrigg, Carlisle, Lancs, aged ninety-three. Dr. Walker qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1878 and obtained his medical qualification in 1883. He was for many years in medical practice in Bootle.



M.O.H. BULLETIN TO PHARMACISTS

The following abstracts are taken from the third Ministry of Health Bulletin to pharmacists, issued by arrangement with the Pharmaceutical Society:—

Mass Miniature Radiography

It is an unfortunate but undeniable fact that in grown-up people pulmonary tuberculosis in its early stages is commonly unaccompanied by symptoms or signs. It may have an insidious onset and the patient may feel perfectly well or he may feel off colour without any very definite or alarming symptoms, just a slight cough perhaps, undue tiredness, a little indigestion and some loss of weight or possibly an attack of pleurisy. These may be symptoms of other common illnesses, but they may also be the early symptoms of lung tuberculosis, and it is of the utmost importance to the individual to know the truth of the matter at this stage.

The procedure is perfectly safe, and, of course, painless. Examination is free and entirely voluntary. It is also very rapid. The total time spent by each person in the special department where the unit is at work is about fifteen minutes, and the actual photograph is taken in 1/10 second. The miniature film is examined by the doctor in charge of the unit and the result is not communicated to anyone except the person examined. In about ninety-five out of every hundred persons examined the best condition is found to be satisfactory. That is to say that there is now a permanent record of the fact that at that date their chests were considered to be normal.

About one person in twenty who has a miniature film taken may be asked to attend again in order to have a full-sized picture taken, either for technical reasons (they may have moved while the photograph was being taken) or because there is an unusual shadow in the chest. More than half of these persons will usually then be passed fit as a result of the examination on the larger film. This leaves about 2 per cent. of those who volunteer for mass miniature radiography to be dealt with. These will be advised to have a medical interview in order that the film findings may be checked and advice given. When necessary a full clinical examination will be made.

"Blood Tests"

It is unfortunate that to many members of the lay public the collection of blood

samples, universally known as "blood tests," is synonymous with examination for the diagnosis of venereal disease, syphilis in particular. The importance of disabusing the public mind of this fallacious view in order to avoid needless worry to the patient and the unspoken stigma of "friends" is obvious, and doctors, nurses and pharmacists can do much to this end. The tests which may be carried out on the blood as aids to the diagnosis of illness are almost legion, but generally they may be classed under (1) direct examination; (2) blood culture; (3) serological reactions; and (4) chemical analysis.

For direct examination of the blood only a few drops are as a rule required, and the samples can be collected from the finger or ear by puncture with a surgical needle. For blood culture, serological reactions and chemical analysis, amounts varying from 1 mil to 10 mils are needed and the samples are collected from a vein by means of a sterile syringe of requisite capacity.

Certain tests, especially for biochemical reactions, with the estimation of serum calcium as an exception, require unclotted blood or plasma for the examination, and for such tests the blood withdrawn by venepuncture is expelled into a sterile tube containing 0.25 mil of 5 per cent. potassium oxalate to prevent clotting. For blood culture 5 to 10 mils of blood taken by venepuncture may either be inoculated directly into a screw-capped bottle containing about 100 mils of fluid nutrient medium or distributed from the syringe in 1 or 2 mil amounts into tubes or 1-oz. screw-capped bottles of fluid media. If the blood is to be transported before inoculation into culture media, it is usually expelled into a sterile tube containing 1.5 mils of a 0.2 per cent. aqueous solution of sodium polyanethol sulphate, a compound which acts not only as an anticoagulant, but also destroys the bactericidal power of the blood and indirectly aids the growth of the infecting organism in nutrient media.

Work of the Factory Department

THE Factory Department, which was temporarily transferred from the Home Office to the Ministry of Labour and National Service in June 1940, is mainly concerned with health, safety and welfare in premises under the Factories Act, 1937. War requirements have cast new duties too numerous to mention on the Department. The executive powers for all this

work are exercised by H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories, assisted by deputy chief inspectors, superintending inspectors (for divisions), and district inspectors with junior inspectors (for the ultimate subdivisions of the country), together with a number of specialist inspectors with special chemical, electrical, engineering, medical and physical, etc., qualifications. The designation H.M. Inspector of Factories, over a hundred years old, is much valued by the Inspectorate, but now is somewhat misleading, since it suggests the functions of the police. Of course, the inspectors have to maintain legal standards, but that is only one of many duties. Nowadays to inspect is to look and to inquire and, having looked and inquired, to help employers and workers alike.

The strength of the Department lies in its legal background and in the responsibility placed upon individual inspectors in charge of the ninety-two districts. The district inspector, a well-qualified man or woman, forms the primary personal and sensitive anastomosis between industry and the Department: the function of the remaining portion is to nourish and sustain this living link. To do so the Department draws upon its own not inconsiderable resources, on other Government departments, on employers' associations, on trade unions and on joint industrial councils. In turn, these draw upon individuals, upon professional, technical, scientific and legal experts, and in this way the needs of the situation are met.

Apart from enforcing the law relating to hours of employment—a complicated matter these days—the main headings are health, safety and welfare. These are wide subjects and shade imperceptibly into each other, with the result that most of the work is team-work between several inspectors.

Dangers of Sunburn

As each summer comes round numbers of people take over-enthusiastic advantage of the sun. It is the short or ultra-violet rays which produce sunburn and the actual heat of the sun has no influence. The skin reaction is an erythema which may not appear until, say, six hours or more after exposure. The skin takes on a shiny, swollen appearance in the areas which have been exposed. The patient complains of burning and itching, and the skin is tender to the touch. Blisters are not infrequent, and there is occasionally conjunctivitis; in severe cases general symptoms of malaise, anorexia, nausea and irritability are seen. Whether the

case is mild or severe, it soon settles with peeling of the skin. The only exception to this is in the rare instances of specially sensitive people, and after sensitisation with some substance such as hematoxylin, that the patient takes longer to recover, although generalised results from sunburn do very occasionally require a couple of weeks' stay in a darkened room.

On the other hand, it is now widely recognised that sun-bathing is most beneficial; it is practised with ever-increasing frequency, and indeed all encouragement should be given to this movement. But as with so many other good things people tend to excess, and the disadvantages of sunburn should therefore be borne in mind. The best way to avoid them is to acclimatise the skin by repeated and gradually increasing exposures. At first both the time of exposure and the amount of skin uncovered should be small. Fifteen minutes with either the thorax or lower limbs nude is quite enough to start. It is not necessary to wait till it is very sunny to begin light baths. On a very sunny day, in the mountains or by the seaside, where the ultra-violet tends to be stronger, protection can be given by a very thin layer of yellow soft paraffin. Only a very small quantity is needed, and the skin need not look or feel greasy after application. If a small amount is well rubbed over the area and it is then wiped with a soft rag or towel, sufficient soft paraffin remains to filter out harmful rays. In the matter of treatment where there is discomfort from sunburn, the most soothing application is probably a cream of the water-in-oil-emulsion type. Many ways of dispensing this will occur to the pharmacist according to the materials he has at hand in this time of restricted supplies. Others have used calamine lotion as a relieving application. When the sun-bathing has been general, and all the body is affected, a tepid bath with a couple of handfuls of sodium bicarbonate will be found most soothing.

A word of warning is necessary with regard to infants and young children. The former should never be allowed to rest in their prams with the bright sun beating on them directly. The death of a child of eight months has been caused by exposure to bright sun in England for a period which was certainly not more than three-quarters of an hour, and may well have been less. Absence of protection from the sun of an infant's head or body may result in serious consequences which a timely word can avert.

JOHN DALTON, 1766-1844

by H. Price, Ph.C.

JOHN DALTON, upon whose theories the whole superstructure of modern chemistry may be said to rest, died one-hundred years ago. Except that he was a Quaker by conviction and upbringing, little is known of his personal life, but from the diaries of contemporary scientists, the records of various learned Societies, and some existing letters, it is possible to piece together a picture of the man and the scientist.

One of three children of Joseph Dalton and his wife, Deborah Greenup, he was born in humble circumstances in the village of Eaglesfield, near Cockermouth, in Cumberland. In this area the Society of Friends was predominant, and it was in the Society's school that he received his early education, which was no doubt responsible, with the training he received at home, for his lifelong tenacity of purpose. At the age of twelve, having gone as far as he could at the school, he was given private coaching, principally in mathematics. After two years as a pupil-teacher, he left school to help on his father's farm, but in 1781 left to assist his cousin George Bewley, who was teaching in his own school at Kendal. Here he spent some twelve years; improved his knowledge of Latin, Greek, and mathematics; and studied natural philosophy under a Mr. Gough, a blind philosopher.

Lecturer in Mathematics

In 1785 Bewley retired and Dalton entered on a period as joint manager of the school with his brother Jonathan. Dalton felt restricted in his sphere as a village teacher, and eventually obtained a post as lecturer in mathematics and natural philosophy at New College, Manchester, thus commencing in 1793 a long association with the city. The following year he became a member of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, in whose rooms all his subsequent experimental work was carried out.

New College moved to York in 1799, but Dalton decided to remain in Manchester as private tutor, in which capacity he spent his remaining years. Even before his arrival in Manchester he had contributed several papers to the "Gentleman's and Ladies' Diaries," and had printed his book, "Meteorological Observations and Essays" (published after he took up his lectureship). His work was by no means confined to science, his "Elements of English Gram-

mar" (1801), and a paper "On the Auxiliary Verbs and Participles of the English Language," being evidence of his versatility.

Atomic Theory

Using the many analyses of compounds published by Richter, Davy, Cavendish, and others, Dalton set out to find a mathematical relationship in their combining proportions. His atomic theory, and the laws of constant composition and multiple proportions, were propounded and published, first in Thomson's "System of Chemistry" and, later, in his own "New System of Chemical Philosophy" (1808). During the forty-seven years of his association with the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, he published 116 papers, and subsequently contributed to the "Proceedings of the Royal Society." In 1804 he was invited to give a course of lectures in the newly-formed Royal Institution, London, and on his return he gave a similar course of twenty lectures in Manchester to an audience of about 120 people for a payment of £2 2s. By that time Dalton had held for four years the secretaryship of the Literary and Philosophical Society, subsequently becoming its vice-president and president.

Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Dalton apparently found time to give pharmaceutical chemistry some attention. Letters show, for example, that he corresponded with Luke Howard, F.R.S., and one of Howard's letters, answering a query from Dalton, gives the method by which Howard made "sulphuret of potash" (the potassa sulphurata of the 1809 Pharmacopœia Londinensis). As an outcome of his interest in pharmaceutical chemistry, Dalton was called upon to give, in 1824, the first series of lectures on that subject in the School of Medicine run in Manchester by Mr. Turner. So much of his leisure was spent in country rambles, during which he made a collection of butterflies and gathered plants for his herbarium, that he had, as he remarked, no time to get married! By the Government of Lord Grey he was granted a pension of £150 per annum, subsequently increased to £300; but his pension did not bring him the leisured old age he might have enjoyed, for in 1837 he was attacked by paralysis. Further attacks limited his activities, and he died in July 1844.



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DL. CXLII JULY 8, 1944 NO. 3361

The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in this paper or described in its editorial columns should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.

For the Young Pharmacist

THE article "Queensland—A Land of Opportunities" published in this issue may be unusual in character but we believe it will be of general interest to our readers, particularly to young pharmacists whose careers have been interrupted by service with the Forces. When the time comes for their return to civil life many of these young men will be looking for something more adventurous than service behind a counter. A position that offers little or no hope of advancement, however safe and comfortable it may be, will not be sufficient. It is the result of his war service and his wider knowledge of the world the young and enterprising pharmacist will be looking further afield for better opportunities to make a fresh start in life.

Our contributor, who has had over twenty years' experience of pharmacy in Queensland, calls attention to the post-war possibilities of that country. In common with most of the other countries of the British Commonwealth of Nations, Queensland is ripe for vast development. With an area of some 670,500 square miles it is a country of exceptional natural wealth, yet the population in 1941 was less than two persons per

square mile. Post-war conditions, with the probable intake of a substantial number of immigrants, are, according to our contributor, likely to be most favourable for pharmacists, both in securing employment upon landing and of becoming proprietors of their own businesses in due course.

Synthetic Quinine and Malaria

FULL details of the synthesis of quinine by the American workers at Harvard, Woodward and Dolring, are now available, but it is unlikely that the alkaloid has been synthesised in any quantity. Hydroxy quinoline is used as the starting point, and there are a considerable number of stages in the synthesis. Quinine obtained by total synthesis can never compete in cost with the natural product as an antimalarial. Interest in the present synthesis is therefore more academic than commercial. The drug, however, is a weapon of war, not only as an antimalarial but as a constituent of polaroid (quinine iodosulphate), which is put in glass and transparent plastics to prevent light glare, and which is extensively used in aeroplane equipment. If quinine is in very short supply it might be worth while during the war to synthesise it in order to make polaroid, a small amount of which will confer anti-glare properties on a large surface of glass or plastic. This alone might justify the synthesis of quinine on a small manufacturing scale.

The Medical Aspect

From the medical point of view the search for a relatively cheap and efficient synthetic antimalarial is likely to be more profitable than the search for synthetic quinine. To treat malaria on a world-wide scale such a drug must be cheap, and to be cheap it must be easily synthesised. There are something like 800,000,000 cases of malaria occurring in the world each year, and the treatment of these and existing ones will cost a large sum of money in drugs alone. In some local areas much has been done in the way of drainage and sanitary projects to reduce the incidence of the disease, but in large parts of the world reliance must still be placed upon the use of drugs. The only synthetic antimalarials at present available for clinical use are

mepacrine, pamaquin and certuna. Mepacrine appears to be as effective as quinine—more so according to some investigators—both in suppressive use and in the treatment of clinical attacks of malaria, but it is not free from toxic side-effects. Pamaquin cannot be used for suppressive treatment, since in safe doses it is gametocidal and has little effect on the schizonts, and for this reason fails to control clinical attacks of malaria. Certuna (dimethyl amino-oxy-quinolylaminobutane) seems to resemble pamaquin in its effects, and must be combined with mepacrine or quinine for the treatment of an attack.

The Search Continues

The fact remains that there is no drug in common use that will prevent with certainty the establishment of malarial infection. The search for synthetic anti-malarials is on, and it is hoped that before long the research that is taking place in this country and America will bear fruit. The difficulty is not so much the preparation of new chemotherapeutic types, but the testing of them. Only two species are of value as test animals, the canary and the white duck.

Business Property Under the Town Planning Bill

THE Town and Country Planning Bill, the terms of which were recently published by the Government, is not, of course, primarily concerned with industrial or business premises. Nevertheless, no comprehensive scheme involving powers of acquisition of land could fail to touch, at some points, the owners or occupiers of buildings not used for residential purposes, and there are items in the Bill of which members of the business community need to be aware. The Bill provides, broadly, that areas needing to be replanned are to be "designated." Since, however, redevelopment almost inevitably necessitates "thinning out," the areas affected will be greater than the actual areas affected by war damage (or other cause of designation), and provision is made for the resettlement elsewhere of persons or businesses affected by the thinning-out process. The machinery of this

provision is that the Local Planning Authority will be "required to afford, so far as practicable, to persons living in or carrying on business or other activities in the area, an opportunity of obtaining accommodation in the redeveloped area, due regard being had to the price at which land has been acquired from them."

Local Powers

The Minister may direct the disposal of any person in any manner of any land so acquired. Power is given to a Local Planning Authority to carry out any necessary development which is not otherwise likely to be carried out, and one object of the enabling provision is to ensure that suitable accommodation is promptly available for small businesses unable to provide it for themselves. To secure "proper balance" within a community, more industrial development may be needed, and facilities for compulsory acquisition of land for this purpose are included. One other provision concerns businesses driven into unsatisfactory accommodation on account of the war, and likely to upset replanning if they return to their former area. For such special facilities must be given elsewhere.

Children's Teeth

IN the "British Medical Journal" (July 24) Mellanby and Coumoulos give an encouraging account of two large-scale dental surveys of five-year-old children in L.C.C. schools in 1929 and 1943. Much improvement both in the structure of deciduous teeth and in their resistance to decay is reported. It is found that (a) 81 per cent. of the children in 1929 had teeth of perfect or nearly perfect structure, while in 1943 the figure was 19 per cent.; (b) in 1929, 58 per cent. had defectively formed teeth (i.e. teeth with much hypoplasia), in 1943 the percentage had been reduced to 33 per cent.; (c) only 5 per cent. in 1929 were, according to the standards used, caries-free, but in 1943 the figure found was 22 per cent. The observed improvements are attributed to the changes in feeding habits which have been developing in recent years—in particular the cheap-milk scheme introduced in 1934 and later the war-time

ood policy, which included increased allowances of milk, together with cod-liver oil and fruit juices, to pregnant and lactating women, to infants and to young children; next, the addition of vitamins A and D₂ to margarine; and finally the addition of calcium carbonate to bread. These are dietetic changes which investigations on animals and children carried out by Melnby since 1917 have established as essential for the improved dental condition of the general child population. The figures give no cause for complacency and abatement of efforts, for, in some individual schools visited, between 56 and 95 per cent. of children had decay in at least some teeth.

Rebuilding the Markets

is now generally well-known throughout the trade, Mincing Lane is among areas of London which have suffered severely from enemy action since the commencement of

the war. One of the largest owners of offices and building property in this area is the City of London Real Property Co., Ltd., at whose annual meeting, held recently in London, the chairman disclosed that plans for rebuilding the Mincing and Mark Lane markets have been prepared and are already passed by the London County Council and the Corporation of the City of London. Rebuilding can thus begin immediately the necessary Government licence is obtained, but the complaint is made that further progress in the development of sites is impossible owing to delay in publishing the City's replanning scheme. Merchants and brokers who are affected will not, of course, expect to see any rebuilding in progress prior to the termination of hostilities, but the acute shortage of office accommodation in that part of the City will lead many of them to hope that a way will be found to permit an early start after the war.

MEDICAL ABSTRACTS

Sensitivity to Sulphonamides.—Allergic reactions to drugs of the sulphonamide group have been recorded. The question whether sensitivity to one member of the group occurs if other drugs of the series are given has been investigated by Park (British Medical Journal, June 10, p. 81). Forty-six cases of internal and cutaneous allergy were investigated by skin tests and oral medication with various sulphonamides and with the related compounds: sulphanilic acid and procaine. Twenty-four cases reacted only to the individual drug by which they were initially sensitised. No case was found to be allergic to more than one of the series without being allergic to them all and to sulphanilic acid. In about 50 per cent. of cases allergic to all, sensitivity was to the sulphonamide radical, and in the remainder to the aminophenyl radical. Seven tests with procaine gave positive reactions.

Liver Impairment after Burn Treatments.—Rae and Wilkinson ("Lancet," 1944. I. 32) have examined possible causes of the toxæmia which has been observed to occur in patients suffering from burns and treated following use of various drugs. Tests were made after local treatment of the burn with (a) 2 per cent. gentian violet, followed by 10 per cent. silver nitrate; (b) a proprietary jelly with tannic acid and Mercuriolate; and (c) a paste containing vary-

ing amounts of sulphacetamide in a base of wool alcohols ointment. They record evidence that liver damage was most common and severe with tannic acid jelly, and least common and severe with silver nitrate, sulphacetamide occupying an intermediate position. The extent of injury was 5 per cent. of the body surface or less in all cases treated with paste or jelly, but seven of the twelve cases treated with silver nitrate had an area of injury totalling 10 per cent. or more. In a large series of children treated with silver nitrate, there was no case of typical acute toxæmia as seen after tannic acid treatment; disturbances occurred which were clinically somewhat similar, but in none of the patients who died was there any sign of centrilobular necrosis of the liver. Some evidence of intolerance to lævulose was found after use of silver nitrate, and the authors suggest that liver function may become disturbed by thermal injuries apart altogether from the absorption of substances used in treatment. They assert that there is now evidence, both clinical and experimental, to justify the disuse of tannic acid as a local application for burns. Nevertheless, coagulation treatment has advantages and may be life-saving in the early stages of extensive superficial burns. Warning is given against the local use of the sulphonamide drugs on injuries to areas greater than 5 per cent..

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

Enemy Holdings in a Company.—The affairs of Bayer Pharma (Proprietary), Ltd., a South African firm marketing pharmaceutical products manufactured in the United States and Great Britain, were the subject of a question answered by the Minister of Finance in the South African House of Assembly recently. The Minister said that half the shares in the company were vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property, while the other half belonged to the Sterling Drug, Inc., New York, U.S.A. On December 10, 1943, the services of two sectional managers were terminated at the request of the American shareholders, and not at the instance of the Custodian of Enemy Property. The two persons concerned had not directed the control of the company, but had been employed on contracts expiring on September 30, 1944, and their salaries had been paid for the full period of their contract. In November 1943 the Union Government had received from the South African Purchasing Commission in Washington a cable intimating that the United States authorities were refusing export permits to the company while the two persons mentioned were employed.

Associated Pharmaceutical Societies.—Opening the annual conference in Pretoria on April 11 of the Associated Pharmaceutical Societies of South Africa, the Mayor of Pretoria said that one of the things to be decided was whether pharmacists were to be shopkeepers or professional men. Pharmacists stood for health. Without health there could be no happiness. In a hundred and one ways the public claimed their advice and had confidence in them. Let that trust be justified. The president of the Associated Societies (Mr. E. V. Howell) said that price control had now got over its initial teething troubles and in the future should be rather less of a bother to pharmacists. During the past year the Societies' executive committee had drafted a memorandum for presentation to the Distributive Costs Commission. The Government apparently hoped that the report of this body would enable it to reduce costs of distribution. "It is difficult to believe that any group of individuals can improve on what has been accomplished by the best brains of commerce backed by generations of experience and goaded by competition," said Mr. Howell. He added that it seemed strange that the Government, with one hand, should be seeking ways of reducing the costs of production and distribution,

while with the other it increased both. "However much we may all desire to see general improvement in every employee living standard," he said, "arbitrary wage increases, which bear no relation to the productive capacity of individuals or the earning capacity of the distributive trade, can only react detrimentally upon those employees who are intended to benefit." The result of the shortage of essential drugs has been the production of a national formulary and this might some day develop into South African Pharmacopoeia.

Pharmacists in Defence Force.—The pharmaceutical profession in South Africa is dissatisfied with the position of members who have joined the Union Defence Force. In the last war men who joined as dispensers, etc., began their service with the rank of staff-sergeant, but in this war they are compelled to enrol as privates. It is stated that they usually have to wait six months before being promoted to the rank of corporal, another six months before reaching the rank of sergeant, and that later promotions depend on vacancies. The initial promotions are at the discretion of the Defence Department. At the same time men with the rank of private may be compelled to use their professional knowledge and skill for the benefit of the army. It is held that a qualified pharmacist should be entitled at least to the rank of staff-sergeant. It is urged that the army establishment, which provides for a certain number of pharmacist staff-sergeants, warrant officers, and commissioned officers, allow for a much smaller number of pharmacists holding commissioned or warrant rank than it should do. The statements were made at a recent meeting of the South African Pharmacy Board. An immediate refutation of the charges came from Brigadier Grenster (Director of Medical Services, Union Defence Forces), who said it was true that a pharmacist had to enrol as a private, the same way as anyone else joining the South African forces, but within a few days he could be posted to duty with the rank of corporal and be promoted in three months to sergeant. The Director's statement is held by pharmacists to be unsatisfactory.

Pamphlet on Trade Associations.—A pamphlet on "British Trade Associations recently issued by P.E.P. (Political and Economic Planning), 16 Queen Anne Gate, London, S.W.1, discusses their importance, internal structure, functions, et

QUEENSLAND—A LAND OF OPPORTUNITIES

The successful venture of a pharmacist who left London for Brisbane in 1921. He maintains that, after the war, Queensland and the other Australian States will be "A Land of Opportunities" for the young qualified man who is prepared to work hard.

Something happens which takes us away from our usual routine of life it sometimes creates a feeling of restlessness, and we have no desire to return to the old ways when the unforeseen has passed. This war will create such a feeling, and will cause many men to be more venturesome and give them courage to launch out into some new profession or desire to try their future in some other country. There are obviously more opportunities in a young country which is not too thickly populated. Such a country requires many more men of the right kind, men with initiative and courage, who are willing to adapt themselves to a country like Australia, and learn the methods and ideas of the people who live there. If they can improve upon them, they may put them into operation for the benefit of themselves as well as the people whom they will serve. Some chemists may be doubtful, but I say these times are passed, but the better would like to give his own experience.

After the 1914-18 war, I realised that it was going to be difficult for me to settle down again in England, so I persevered with my studies, which I had left in 1914. I had, two years after being demobilised, qualified in London as a pharmaceutical chemist. I obtained a position as manager of a business to gain further experience, and after twelve months made the final decision to go to Australia. As I had two dependants and little finance, I realised that a serious undertaking this was, but did not hesitate to take the risk.

Readily Engaged

On arriving in Brisbane, Queensland, I was advised to visit one of the wholesale chemists, who keep a list of vacancies, so I called on one the morning of landing, and within twenty-four hours secured a position as manager of a business. This gave me a good start, and as everyone seemed helpful I soon began to learn the methods of pharmacy in this country and to understand the psychology of the people. After managing this business successfully for a year, I felt I had gained sufficient experience to open my own pharmacy, so I approached the wholesale house and, after stating my case, was surprised at their cordial reception and generosity. They not only gave me substantial financial assistance, but gave me a wonderful feeling of friendship, which has

existed for the past eighteen years. Mine is not an isolated case; in fact, I can say that the majority of young Queensland chemists have been assisted in this way to start their careers as proprietors.

Financial Aid Scheme

The scheme started many years ago and is still carried on, and any enterprising young chemist who gives evidence of the necessary grit and shows keenness and aptitude for improving himself, gets the same consideration today. The policy of the wholesalers creates goodwill, and it gives chemists an opportunity to make good which might otherwise be denied them. Naturally, I felt a certain amount of diffidence in approaching the company for help, but this was really quite unnecessary, for although I had little money, they were apparently favourably impressed, and they arranged sufficient finance to permit the purchase of the business. They prepared all documents, and their experience applied thereto saved me quite a lot of worry. All negotiations were conducted in a friendly spirit which marked relations until the time came when I was free of debt, and able to regard the business as entirely my own. With the personal attention which I was able to give the business, it continued to develop until the time arrived when it was worth some thousands of pounds and one of the best of its kind in the State. Owing to a breakdown in health I was compelled to dispose of the business and enter a calling making fewer demands upon my time and energy.

I regard Queensland as a land of opportunity to young or middle-aged English chemists who have not yet "found their place in the sun." Queensland is about twenty times the size of England, and its entire population is less than that of the City of Birmingham. As a State, it has extraordinary natural wealth, much of which is as yet undeveloped. In view of Australia's keen realisation of the dire need for population, it is certain that there will be much immigration after the war, and Queensland is the least developed of all the States. There is no reason why any chemist coming to Queensland after the war, who is prepared to adapt himself to local conditions and work hard, should not be just as successful as I was.

ULSTER CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION

At the June meeting of the executive committee of the Ulster Chemists' Association, the president (Mr. H. P. Crossin) in the chair, THE SECRETARY reported receipt of a letter from the Ministry of Labour stating that remuneration for National Health Insurance dispensing was under consideration, and that a reply would be sent to the U.C.A. at an early date. The secretary was directed to press for a reply, and the following subcommittee was appointed to discuss the question with representatives of the Ministry of Labour: The president, vice-president, treasurer and secretaries, with Messrs. J. N. Hogg, James McDowell, J. McGregor and E. A. Richey. The same subcommittee was authorised to deal with any urgent business arising before the next meeting of the committee on August 1.

The secretary was directed to write again to the Ministry of Labour asking that a higher price should be fixed for record syringes dispensed on N.H.I. prescriptions, the tariff price (5s. 8d.) being less than the present cost price (6s. 6d.).

New Price List

THE SECRETARY reported that the new price list of the Association was now printed and would be distributed to members during the week. It was agreed that members purchasing extra copies of the price list, in accordance with the rules, should be charged 7s. 6d. per copy, and the secretary was instructed to advise advertisers that copies were not available for general distribution but could be borrowed for inspection.

Correspondence was read concerning a proposal by a manufacturer to withdraw certain of his veterinary products from ordinary retail sale through chemists, and the secretary was instructed to write reiterating the Association's strong protest against this course, and stating that the amended proposal to appoint certain chemists as stockists, on condition that they would supply the products only against veterinary surgeons' prescriptions, was not acceptable. This view was also to be expressed to the National Pharmaceutical Union.

The secretary reported that with one exception all members had paid up their arrears.

Hospital Dispensers' Salaries

The secretary reported that he had written, as directed by the associates' committee, with the approval of the executive committee, to the Commissioners of

Whiteabbey Sanatorium, putting forward a claim by the hospital dispenser (Miss E. G. Crawford, an associate member of the Association) for an increase in salary. The Commissioners had replied stating that they would not take any action in the matter, and the associates' committee had therefore decided to refer the matter to the Ministry of Labour for arbitration.

Miscellaneous Business

THE TREASURER reported that, as directed, the trustee had re-invested the proceeds of the sale of one of the Association's investments in 3 per cent. Savings Bonds.

Various price changes were considered and approved, including price advances in surgical dressings resulting from increased costs.

Letters were read from the Ministry of Home Affairs advising withdrawal of Dangerous Drugs Act authorities from Thomas Ernest Hayden, M.D., and Ida May Lewis M.D., both of Belfast.

THE SECRETARY reported that, responding to a personal letter written by the president inviting non-members to join, two replies had been received, one from Mr. J. W. H. Johnston, R.D., Newtownbutler co. Fermanagh, and one from William Doi & Co., Ltd., chemists, 9 Queen's Square Belfast. On the proposal of THE PRESIDENT (Mr. H. P. Crossin), seconded by MR. A. I. JOHNSTON, both were elected to membership. THE PRESIDENT stated that he had recently visited Armagh and hoped that as a result of his visit, the only non-member there would soon join the Association. He suggested that the secretary should visit towns where there were or had been local associations, with a view to encouraging country members to re-form or maintain such organisations.

Social Subcommittee

The following subcommittee was appointed to organise social activities with the Association: Mr. A. E. Johnston (vice-president), Misses C. E. Culbert and L. M. Forrest (members of executive committee), Messrs. M. Hodes and Joseph Wellwood (proposer and seconder of proposals at the previous annual meeting for furthering social activities); and Messrs. H. W. Garble, W. H. Boyd and Mrs. E. H. Barr (chairman, vice-chairman and secretary of the Associates' Committee).

Pouring in Supplies.—Now is the time for a really big effort in paper salvage.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

At the June meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, Mr. J. T. Nicholl, Ph.C. (president), in the chair, was attended by Messrs. Charles Bernerth (vice-president), James McDowell (treasurer), J. E. Connor, J.P., James Donaghy, S. H. Forrest, James Glendinning, W. Gray, J.P., James Irwin, H. F. Moore, C. Tate and Dr. S. E. A. Acheson. Dr. D. L. Kirkpatrick (secretary) was in attendance.

The secretary read a letter from the Ministry of Home Affairs intimating the appointment of Mr. Herbert Frame, Registrar, under Section 8, Pharmacy and Poisons Act (N.I.) 1925. The following letter was also read by the secretary from the Ministry of Agriculture, Northern Ireland, Stormont, Belfast:—

I am directed by the Minister of Agriculture to refer to the Ministry's letter of February 29, notifying you that the scheme for the destruction of rabbits by Cymag gassing powder

would operate from April 1—August 31, 1944. The Ministry has now decided to extend the scheme to the destruction of rats, and the price arrangements will be exactly the same as already indicated to you. The rat scheme will commence on June 12, and will continue for an indefinite period. It is trusted that, if the opportunity presents itself, you will be good enough to bring the matter to the notice of your members.

To Attend Examinations

The following members of Council were appointed to attend the Society's examinations on June 26, 27, 28 and 29: Monday, Messrs. James Donaghy and H. H. Cowzer; Tuesday, Messrs. James McDowell and H. F. Moore; Wednesday, Messrs. J. W. Gray, J.P., W. C. Tate and J. McGregor; Thursday, Dr. S. E. A. Acheson. The sealing of the Certificates of new Licentiates was proposed by MR. JAMES GLENDINNING, and the proposition was seconded by MR. H. F. MOORE.

CONFERENCE SCIENCE PAPERS

The following is a list of science papers to be read and discussed at the eighty-first annual meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference to be held at the Walverton Hotel, Aldwych, London, W.C.2, on July 11:—

"The Sterilising Action of Steam Admixed with Air and Other Gases" (R. Maxwell Savage, A., F.R.I.C.).

"The Protection of Ether Against Peroxide Formation" (Drs. E. Boehm and R. Williams).

"The Stability of Preparations Containing Methyl Nitrite" (A. H. A. Abbott, B.Sc., A.I.C., and Betty H. Hooper).

"Vitamin B in Malt Extract" (Frank Wokes, D., Ph.C., F.R.I.C., J. G. Organ, and E. M. Jones).

"The Stability of Vitamin C in Blackcurrant Juice" (Frank Wokes, Ph.D., Ph.C., F.R.I.C., and J. G. Organ).

"Rose-hip Tablets" (Frank Wokes, Ph.D., F.R.I.C., E. H. Johnson and F. C. Jacoby).

"The Histology of Belladonna Root. Part I: *Atropa Belladonna*, Linn." (C. Melville, B.Pharm., F.R.I.C.).

"The Histology of Belladonna Root. Part II: *Atropa Acuminata*, Royle ex Lindley" (C. Melville, B.Pharm., Ph.C.).

"The Analysis of B.P.C. Pastilles" (N. Jones, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., and W. Smith, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.).

"A Note on the Hydrolysis of Diamorphine Hydrochloride" (G. A. Storey, M.P.S.).

"The Determination of Hyoscine, Hyoscyamine and Atropine" (J. M. Rowson, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.).

"The Assay of Belladonna and of Some Other Solanaceous Drugs—Determination of Hyoscyamine, Atropine and Hyoscine" (J. M. Rowson, M.Sc., Ph.C.).

"Biological Assays of Simple Adrenaline Solutions by the Cat and Frog Heart Methods" (H. Berry, B.Sc., Dip. Bact. (Lond.), F.R.I.C., Ph.C., E. Shotton, B.Sc., A.R.I.C., Ph.C., and G. B. West, Ph.D., B.Pharm., Ph.C.).

"Stability of Adrenaline Solutions. I: Solutions of Adrenaline Hydrochloride" (H. Berry, B.Sc., Dip. Bact. (Lond.), F.R.I.C., Ph.C., and G. B. West, Ph.D., B.Pharm., Ph.C.).

"The Preparation of Compressed Tablets. Part II: Measurement of the Rate of Disintegration of Compressed Tablets" (H. Berry, B.Sc., Dip. Bact. (Lond.), F.R.I.C., Ph.C., and A. Nutter Smith, Ph.C.).

"The Pallid Ratio Values of *Atropa Belladonna* and *Acuminata*" (E. George, Ph.C.).

COMING EVENTS

Notices for inclusion under this heading should be sent in time to reach the Editor at Bath not later than Wednesday morning of the week of insertion. Secretaries are advised to send copies of printed programmes of local activities so soon as they are completed.

Sunday, July 9

MANCHESTER PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Ramble round Macclesfield. Meet London Road Station, 9.30 a.m. Book Macclesfield return.

NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL EMPLOYEES' UNION, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, at 2.15 p.m. Annual meeting. At 4 p.m., open meeting.

TRADE REPORT

Spot quotations for pharmaceutical chemicals, crude drugs and essential oils represent the prices for wholesale quantities of standard quality. C.i.f. quotations do not include marine war risk insurance and other abnormal charges payable in the present emergency

28 Essex Street, W.C.2, July 5

REPORTS from the London drug and chemical markets this week indicate a small but steady business in drugs and chemicals required for immediate consumption. Prices are mostly without quotable change, and in some instances supplies are exceedingly poor. No alterations of importance have occurred in PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS. New price schedules for LIGHT MAGNESIUM CARBONATE and LIGHT MAGNESIUM OXIDE came into operation on July 1.

Crude Drugs

Dealers in these commodities report a quiet week of business with only modest quantities changing hands. The home consuming trades have been practically the sole buyers at prices about level with those recorded recently. AGAR, in small compass, is selling slowly at the official price. BALSAMS are unchanged with TOLU and COPAIBA still unobtainable. Indian BELLADONNA LEAVES are scarce, but some low-testing ROOT may be obtained. BENZOIN is steady, but supplies are small. CAMPHOR may still be had in small quantities by approved users. CARDAMOMS are neglected. The only variety of CHILLIES offered at present is Mombasa. DIGITALIS LEAVES are unchanged. New allocations have been granted for ERGOT. GUM ACACIA is steady. Considerable inquiry is being received for MENTHOL, but supplies are severely restricted. Official quotations for MERCURY are unchanged. No further supplies of ORANGE PEEL are available on spot. RHUBARB is attracting some attention and last-quoted prices are well maintained. SEEDS are quiet and unchanged. STROPHANTHUS SEEDS are at the slightly lower figure noted last week. TRAGACANTH is wanted, but quotations are unaltered. A quiet demand continues for TURMERIC. The usual periodical survey of drugs and medical products is now being made by the Directorate of Medical Supplies.

Essential Oils

Business in this section has again been quiet, the "free" oils in exceedingly limited supply. The Ministry of Food announces that the only change in the existing prices of unrefined oils and fats and

technical animal fats allocated to primary wholesalers and large trade users, during the five weeks ending August 5, is an advance of £2 per ton in crude LINSEED OIL.

Exchange Rates on London

During June the foreign exchange rates on London remained steady. Bank of England fixed rates include New York, 4.03 dollars Montreal, 4.45 dollars; Dutch West Indies 7.60 florins; Lisbon, 100 escudos; Stockholm 16.90 kroner. The Spanish rate is steady at 44 pesetas and the Chinese National dollar is unchanged at 3½d.

Pharmaceutical Chemicals

CAFFEINE.—Quantities of 7 lb.-28 lb. are quoted per lb. as follows (supplies subject to D.M.S. approval): ALKALOID B.P., 34s.; CITRATE, 23s.; SODIUM BENZOATE, 23s.; SODIUM SALICYLATE, 23s. 9d. Tins extra when supplied.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Controlled prices for the smaller quantities are as follows: Less than 7 lb., 2s. 10d. per lb.; 7 lb.-14 lb., 2s. 9½d. 14 lb.-28 lb., 2s. 9d. For the full schedule, see C. & D., May 20, p. 555.

CALAMINE, B.P.C.—Quoted at 1s. 8d. per lb. for 7-lb. lots, and 1s. 6d. per lb. for 28-lb. lots.

GALLIC ACID.—Quotations steady at from 10s. 6d. to 11s. per lb., according to quantity.

MAGNESIUM CARBONATE, LIGHT.—The following are the prices per lb. current in the home market as from July 1:—

Containers	1 lb.	4 lb.	7 lb.	14 lb.	28 lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 lb.-4 lb.	1 7½	—	—	—	—
4 lb.-7 lb.	1 6½	1 5	—	—	—
7 lb.-14 lb.	1 5½	1 4	1 3	—	—
14 lb.-28 lb.	1 4½	1 3	1 2	1 1½	—
28 lb.-1 cwt.	1 3½	1 2	1 1	1 0½	1 0

Prices net one month.

MAGNESIUM OXIDE, LIGHT.—The following are the prices per lb. current in the home market as from July 1:—

Containers	1 lb.	4 lb.	7 lb.	14 lb.	28 lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 lb.-4 lb.	3 2½	—	—	—	—
4 lb.-7 lb.	3 1½	3 0	—	—	—
7 lb.-14 lb.	3 0½	2 11	2 10	—	—
14 lb.-28 lb.	2 11½	2 10	2 9	2 8½	—
28 lb.-1 cwt.	2 10½	2 9	2 8	2 7½	2 7

Prices net one month.

ATROPINE.—Makers' prices per oz. are as follows (prices per gram in brackets): **KALOID**, 1 oz., 97s. 6d.; 4 oz., 92s. 6d.; 1 lb., 87s. 6d. (6s.). **HYDROCHLORIDE**, **HYDROMIDATE** and **SULPHATE**, 1 oz., 75s.; 4 oz., 90s.; 1 lb., 65s. (3s. 2d.).

PILOCARPINE.—Makers quote at the following prices per oz.: **Base**, 1-oz., 27s.; 4 oz., 21s. 3d.; 1 lb., 20s. 9d.; 25 oz., 20s. 3d. **NITRATE**, 1 oz., 18s. 6d.; 4 oz., 18s.; 25 oz., 17s. 6d.

ANTONIN.—Home-trade prices are as follows: **1 kilo** and over, £62; not less than 5 kilos, £64; 2-4 kilos, £64; 1 kilo, £65; 500 gm., £66; 100 gm., £67; 100 gm., £68; less than 100 gm., per kilo. Carriage paid in United Kingdom.

EPINEOL.—Pure medicinal quality may be obtained at from 3s. 3d. to 4s. per lb., for antiseptics of the chloroxylenol type.

ANILLIN.—Current rates per lb. are as follows: 5 cwt., 21s. per lb.; 1 cwt., 21s. 3d.; 1 lb., 21s. 6d.; less than 56 lb., 21s. 9d.

Crude Drugs

AGAR.—Business is confined to a few odd lots at the controlled price of 30s. per lb.

ALOE.—Curaçao steady on spot at 450s. per cwt.; it is understood that Cape, when available, will be dearer.

AMMONIACUM.—Dealers can offer supplies of primary drops on spot at 2s. per lb.

ANTIMONY.—No change in position or prices. Glush 99 per cent. regulus, £120 per ton, delivered, and 70 per cent., for the home trade, 60 per ton, delivered.

ARECA NUTS.—Ceylon, in small compass on spot, 115s. per cwt., ex store.

BALSAMS.—Position unchanged. *Peru* steady on spot at 7s. 9d. per lb., and *Canada* at 10s. 6d. per lb. *and Copaiba* are unobtainable.

BELLADONNA.—Price of Indian leaves continues nominal at 5s. 3d. per lb.; Indian root, which an alkaloidal content of 0.36 per cent., is quoted at 330s. per cwt.

BENZOIN.—Any available small supplies of natural would fetch about £35 and upwards per cwt. Siam almond block, spot, £55.

BUCHU LEAVES.—Limited supplies are quoted at 3s. 3d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—Limited supplies of Chinese camphor may be had by approved users at 10s. per cwt. and similar quantities of B.P. at 11s. 6d.

CARDAMOMS.—Quiet and unchanged. Aleppy cardamom, spot, 5s. 6d. per lb.; Aleppy seed, 6s. 6d.; black seed, 5s. 6d.

CAULMOOGRA.—*Hydnocarpus*, spot, in tins and cases, 1s. 6d. per lb.

CHILLIES.—Mombasa continues to be the only variety offered; spot quoted at 115s. per cwt., sellers.

CLIVES.—Spot quotations for Zanzibar, 3d. per lb., buyers; to arrive, unquoted.

COCA BUTTER.—Except under Ministry of Food licence, sales prices are fixed at 1s. 5½d. per lb. ex factory or warehouse.

COCONUT (DESICCATED).—Controlled price is unchanged at 49s. per cwt.

COLOCYNTH.—Offered on spot at 2s. 10½d. to 3s. per lb.

DIGITALIS LEAVES.—Portuguese leaves are steady on spot at 140s. per cwt., and English-grown at 2s. 6d. per lb.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—Zanzibar drop is the only variety offered; price approximately £25 per cwt., but supplies are meagre.

ERGOT.—As noted last week, new allocations have been granted.

GUM ACACIA.—Kordofan cleaned sorts, steady on spot at 80s. per cwt.; bleached, shipment, 140s., c.i.f. Talha, cleaned, 50s. per cwt., landed.

HENBANE.—Indian leaf, spot, 250s. to 275s. per cwt., according to holder; some low-testing material is quoted at 1s. per lb., and Russian leaf at 350s. per cwt.

JABORANDI.—Small supplies may be obtained on spot at 52s. 6d. per cwt.

KAMALA.—Material with 6 per cent. ash would be worth 1s. 10d. per lb.

LIQUORICE ROOT.—Russian root, for pharmaceutical purposes, 85s. per cwt.; small supplies of single-peeled Syrian, spot, 110s. per cwt., subject to D.M.S. approval.

MENTHOL.—Demand is sustained, but supplies are difficult to find.

MYRRH.—Good-quality Aden sorts, if available on spot, would be worth £20 per cwt.

NUTMEGS.—West Indian, wormy and broken, spot, 1s. 5d. per lb.; sound unassorted, 1s. 7½d.

NUX VOMICA.—Cochin, spot, 40s. per cwt.; shipment, 35s., c.i.f.; Cocanada seed, shipment, 32s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

ORANGE PEEL.—Spot supplies are exhausted.

PIMENTO.—Sellers on spot at 1s. 4½d. per lb.

QUASSIA.—Price remains at 40s. to 45s. per cwt., according to quantity.

QUILLAIA BARK.—Crushed or cut, spot, 90s. per cwt.; natural, 75s.; shipment, 65s., c.i.f.

RHUBARB.—Demand continues good. Rough-round, spot, 10s. 6d. to 11s. per lb. Shensi, irregular shapes, 14s.

SEEDS.—Quiet and without quotable change on the week. Current prices are as follows: **CORIANDER.**—Indian, 75s. per cwt. **CUMIN.**—Maltese, spot, 105s.; Indian, 100s. **DILL.**—125s., ex wharf. **FENNEL.**—Offered at 85s. **FENUGREEK.**—May be had at 80s. **MUSTARD.**—Controlled prices are unchanged.

STRAMONIUM LEAVES.—East Indian leaves, spot, 80s. per cwt.

STROPHANTHUS SEED.—100 per Kombé seed, spot, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity.

TRAGACANTH.—In fair demand. Prices of the medium grades are unchanged as follows: No. 1, white, £130 per cwt.; No. 2, white, £115; No. 3, white, £100; No. 4, white, £85; pale leaf, £60; amber leaf, £50; dark amber, £40; brown

leaf, £30; red-and-brown leaf, £25; red leaf, from £20; hoggy, £12 to £15.

VALERIAN ROOT.—Dealers quote Indian root on spot at 105s. per cwt.

WAXES.—BEES'.—Supplies may be obtained only through members of the Association of Merchant Distributors of Beeswax; official prices are as follows: Crude, 260s. to 290s. per cwt.; refined, 315s. to 355s.; bleached, 340s. to 370s.; Calcutta, crude, 250s. to 270s.; Calcutta, bleached, 325s. to 335s. **CARNAUBA.**—Fatty grey, 440s. per cwt., ex store, in minimum one-bag lots; shipment, 390s., c.i.f.; Primeira, 525s. to 540s. per cwt., ex store, nominal; shipment, 475s., c.i.f.; medium yellow, 530s., nominal; chalky grey, 430s., nominal; shipment, 377s. 6d., c.i.f. (c.i.f. prices include $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. W.R.I.). **CANDELILLA.**—Under 1 ton, 220s. per cwt.; 1-5 tons, 217s. 6d.; 5 tons and over, 215s., ex store. **OURICURI.**—Spot, 290s. to 330s. per cwt., as to quality.

Essential and Expressed Oils

ANISE (STAR).—Price remains nominal at 150s. per lb.

BAY.—Spot supplies are short; price, if available, would be in the region of 12s. per lb.

CASTOR.—Official quotation for firsts is £92 per ton, and that for seconds, £90, both naked ex works, in bulk quantities.

CLOVE.—English distillers' prices are steady at from 11s. 6d. to 12s. per lb., according to quality.

COCONUT.—Bulk supplies of refined deodorised are officially quoted at £49 per ton, and refined hardened deodorised at £53.

COTTONSEED.—Controlled prices for bulk supplies are as follows: Crude, £52 2s. 6d.; washed, £55 5s.; refined edible, £57; refined deodorised, £58 per ton; all varieties quoted naked ex works.

EUCALYPTUS.—Quotations for small lots of 70 to 75 per cent. oil are steady at approximately 7s. 6d. per lb.

GINGERGRASS.—In small supply on spot at about 22s. 6d. per lb.

GROUNDNUT.—Bulk supplies are officially priced as follows: Refined deodorised, £58 per ton; refined hardened deodorised, to 40° £62; refined hardened deodorised, to 50° to 52°, £63; all naked ex works.

LINSEED.—The official bulk price of crude has been advanced by £2 per ton to £62 per ton, naked ex works.

NUTMEG.—English distillers' prices are steady at 35s. per lb., with lower rates for quantities.

OLIVE.—Edible oil is quoted at 25s. 9d. per gallon (9 lb.), ex store.

PALMAROSA.—Spot supplies are small; price, approximately 55s. per lb.

PEPPERMINT.—Nominal at 190s. per lb.; a good inquiry has been received.

RAPESEED.—Official price of bulk supplies is unchanged at £85 per ton, naked ex works.

TRADE MARKS

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," June 7)

"**SINTRA**"; for non-medicated toilet preparations, etc. (3).

"**BETALAX**"; for laxative medicines (5). By Koray, Ltd., 56 Gamage Buildings, London E.C.1. 627,480; 628,047.

"**NOVOXIL**"; for antiseptics (5). By E. I. Squibb & Sons, 745 Fifth Avenue, New York, U.S.A. 626,773.

"**RADI**"; for pharmaceutical and sanitar substances (5). By W. Stevens & Co., 7 Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W.1. 627,438.

"**CYLLIN**"; for pharmaceutical, sanitary, medicinal, veterinary, antiseptic and germicidal preparations (5). By Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., Richmond Street, London E.13. 627,438 (Associated).

"**KOPERTOX**"; for pharmaceutical preparation of compounds of copper, for human and veterinary use (5). By Cuprinol, Ltd. Tadley Court, Tadley, Basingstoke. 627,78

"**BENESTA**"; for pharmaceutical preparation (5). By T. Martin, 31 High Street, Kirriemuir, Angus. 628,067.

"**SEUTICO**"; for pharmaceutical preparation and substances (5). By Mary I. Downin, 32 Hillside Avenue, Clarksfield, Oldham. 628,181 (Associated).

"**CHELTICIDE**"; for insecticides (5). By Chels Insecticides, Ltd., 125 Pall Mall, London S.W.1. 628,364.

"**RHODOLIN**"; for disinfectants (5). By Burton, Rhodes & Co., Ltd., 409, Kilburn High Road, London, N.W.6. 628,555.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," June 14)

"**ANDREWS LIVER SALT**" on label devices incorporating name and address of applicator (device of glass tumbler disclaimed); 1 medicated saline preparations for human use for liver ailments (5). By Scott & Turner, Ltd., Andrews House, Gallowgate, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 627,532-33 (Both Associated).

"**UNITAS**"; for all goods (5) except medicated toilet paper. By The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., 95 Morrison Street, Glasgow, C.5. 623,834 (Associated).

"**HOVINE**"; for medicated wine (5). By Hov Ltd., 154 Grosvenor Road, London, S.W. 628,273 (Associated).

"**ERADORAT**"; for rat-destroying preparations (5). By Brook, Parker & Co., Ltd., Ashfield Horton Road, Bradford. 628,677.

"**HIGHGLEE**"; for teething rings (10). By A. Products, Springlodge Place, Manningham, Bradford. 628,574.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," June 14)

"**UNITAS**"; for chemical substances used in photography, in agriculture, etc.; manual fertilisers; fire-extinguishing preparations, preservatives, etc. (1). By the Scott Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Morrison Street, Glasgow, C.5. 623,834 (Associated).

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES

Protopectin.—*W. D. C.*—This term is applied to the parent pectic substance (water-insoluble) found in plants; it yields citric or pectinic acids on hydrolysis.

Infusion of Euphrasia.—*G. C.*—Euphrasia, commonly known as "eyebright," is astringent herb. An infusion (1 in 20) is used for conjunctivitis and weak eyes.

Shepherd's Fracture.—*N. E. F.*—The term Shepherd's fracture is applied to a fracture of the astragalus, with detachment of the outer protecting edge. It is so named after Francis J. Shepherd, a Canadian geon.

Seasickness.—*W. E. C.*—Hyoscine hydrobromide in doses of gr. $\frac{1}{300}$ is a reliable remedy for seasickness. One dose should be taken four hours before sailing, another at the time of sailing, and two further doses at intervals of four hours. A warning should be given not to take more than four tablets twenty-four hours.

Lavender.—*A. D. V.*—From your description of the wilted branches "with a sickly yellow look," the plants are probably afflicted with "shab," due to a fungus, *Phoma lavandulae*. As the fungus grows inside the lavender, the disease is incurable, and any bush affected should be burned, together with its neighbours. Keep the plantation well weeded, as *Phoma* spores can live on at least one common weed, *Thlaspi arvense*.

Baking Powder.—*H. A. S.*—The following formula for baking powder yields 10 per cent. of carbon dioxide:—

Sodium bicarbonate	..	..	20
Tartaric acid	..	..	13
Cream of tartar	..	..	14
Rice flour	..	..	53

To avoid loss of gas in preparing, it is important that all ingredients should be dry, and it is best to mix the bicarbonate with the flour before adding the acid constituents. Sift several times and keep in airtight containers.

Colorado Beetle.—*M. I.*—Success in eradication depends on steps being taken at good time. Any yellowish beetle about 1 in. long, with black stripes running up and down the beetle or any red or reddish-yellow grub found on potato leaves should be suspected and specimens sent, with a piece of potato leaf, in a tin box having no holes to the Plant Pathology Laboratory, Ministry of Agriculture, Milton Road, Harpenden, Herts. Unauthorised spraying or other treatment of the crop may cause the

beetles to spread. Nothing should be done except under instructions from the Ministry.

Cleaning Bronze.—*W. N. A.*—The stages in bronze cleaning are: (1) Rub well with kerosene to remove grease and dirt; (2) if there is still oxide on the metal, use the following paste:—

Fine pumice powder	..	15 oz.
Oleic acid	..	10 oz.
Suet	..	1 oz.
Kerosene	..	2 oz.

When the oxide is removed, wash off the paste with kerosene and then rub on a film of the following:—

Yellow wax	..	1
Carnauba wax	..	2
Oil of turpentine	..	5
Benzine	..	1

Bergamot.—*E. Y. K.*—The bergamots of the garden are varieties of *Monarda didyma* (N.O. Labiatae). The various coloured flowers, crimson, scarlet, purple, etc., as well as the leaves, are a very pleasant addition to pot pourri. They are sometimes used in salads, but the flavour is strong and does not appeal to many people. Oil of bergamot is obtained from a different plant, *Citrus aurantium*, subsp. *bergamia*, and in normal times comes from Calabria.

Conversion Factor.—*B. C.*—The term 26° refers to degrees Baumé. These are converted into specific gravity by using the following factors:—

$$\frac{140}{130^\circ + B} = \text{S.G.}$$

Thus, 26° Baumé

$$= \frac{140}{130^\circ + 26} = \frac{140}{156} = \text{S.G. } 0.897$$

This is the S.G. of the strong ammonia solution of the U.S.P., which contains from 27 to 29 per cent. of NH_3 (average 28 per cent.). The B.P. strong solution contains 32.5 per cent., so that you should use 413 minims of the B.P. liq. am. fort. for each fluid ounce of the American formula.

Carbon in Flasks.—*B. J.*—The cleaning of flasks and other vessels blackened by carbon is frequently troublesome. A recently-described process is as follows: Place a little potassium chlorate in the dried flask; apply sufficient heat to melt the salt and slowly rotate the flask so that the molten material flows over all the carbon. The reaction is instantaneous; after cooling, the residue dissolves out in water. As much carbon as possible should first be removed by mechanical means.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondents may adopt an assumed name, but must in all cases furnish their real name and address to the Editor

Appreciation

We should like to express our appreciation of the information which you have given to us. We may say that the particulars of the various firms given in your letter will be of the greatest assistance to us in dealing with a large indent received from an overseas friend.—K. B.

"A Matter of Right"

SIR,—Adverting to the statement of Bayer Products, Ltd. (C. & D., June 24, p. 1), without knowing the firm concerned or the reasons for their action, I feel I must remind pharmacists that Messrs. Bayer have deliberately withheld their veterinary products from the usual channels of the drug trade. It would appear then that for Messrs. Bayer to withhold trade from pharmacists is "right," but for pharmacists to withhold trade from them is "wrong"—a delicate distinction, surely?

Yours faithfully,

Brighton.

J. LORD.

SIR,—The Pharmacy Superintendent of the Brighton Equitable Co-operative Society, Ltd., has sent us a copy of his letter of June 26 to you on the subject of our advertisement "A Matter of Right." We should like to point out that the statements he makes are not correct, inasmuch as we do supply pharmacists with our veterinary products but, owing to the complex nature of most of them, they are not suitable for administration by lay persons, and we therefore insist that the pharmacist will sell them only upon the prescription of a veterinary surgeon. To ensure that this safeguard is met we invariably ask for the name of the practitioner in question. We hope that this explanation will put the matter in its proper perspective.

Yours faithfully,

London.

BAYER PRODUCTS, LTD.

Australia Wants Pharmacists

SIR,—There is at present a shortage of qualified pharmaceutical chemists throughout Australia. This has arisen through various developments. In certain States the entrance examination to students has been raised, and in at least one State the University Matriculation examination is now the standard. This development has

naturally reduced the number of successful entrants, for in addition to raising the educational standard, it has made entrance to the profession more expensive. In one State it has recently become illegal for a chemist to accept a premium as consideration for apprenticeship. Formerly, premiums ranging from £50 to £250 were obtained by masters. The prohibition was greatly resented and, in consequence, many chemists now refuse to take apprentices with the result that very few are now taken and the number qualifying for the profession has seriously declined. It is expected that after the war strenuous efforts will be made to obtain migrants to Australia, and there is no reason why they should not include a considerable number of chemists. Social security legislation will secure to any migrants from the United Kingdom all the advantages which are enjoyed in England. The absence of such advantages in the past has been a definite hindrance to migration. In the past, a few English chemists have migrated, and they have been of a splendid type and have rapidly created confidence on the part of wholesale druggists. This has resulted in the granting of very liberal financial assistance in the purchase of businesses, because the principle element in these transactions is the general integrity of the borrower. English chemists who can adapt themselves to the Australian life, and this should be easier than ever after the war, are almost certain to be very successful. They can be assured of sympathetic help and encouragement from the wholesale section of the industry.

Yours faithfully,

Australia.

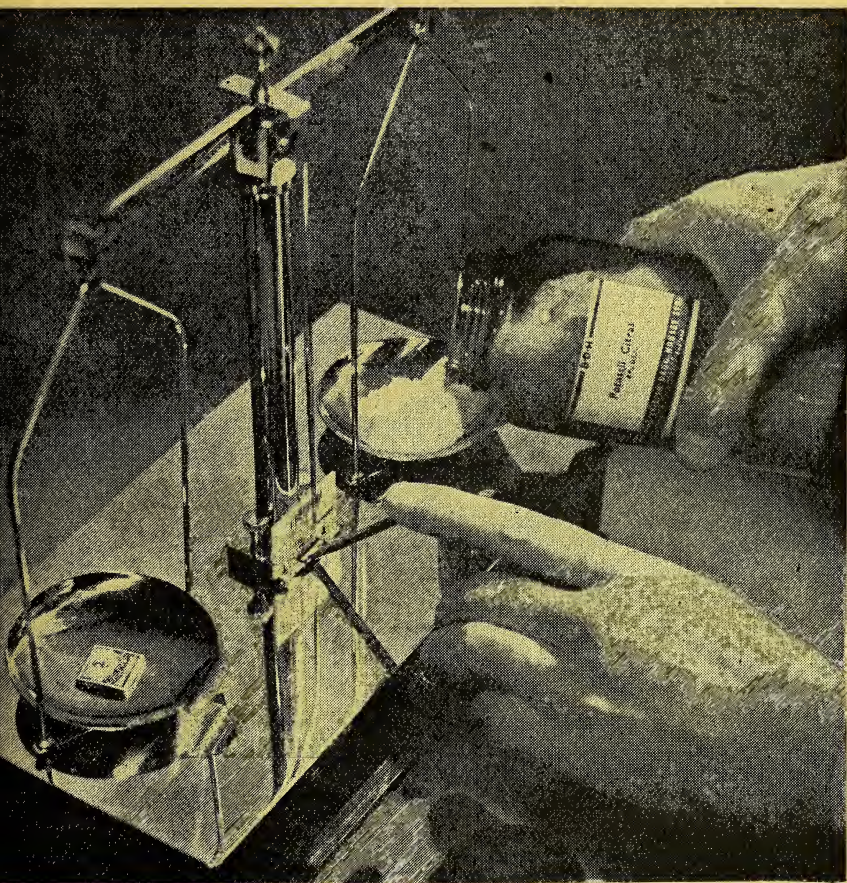
A MANAGING DIRECTOR

(See p. 45, and editorial comment, p. 4)

COMMERCIAL NOTES

Rubber from Ethiopia.—A non-producing organisation is reported to have been set up in Ethiopia to tap, collect and export raw rubber.

Argentine Vegetable Oils.—Since the war Argentina has become an important source of supply of various edible oils to the United Nations. Growing conditions continue favourable, and present indications point to a considerable increase in production of sunflower and pea-nut seeds, and the United Nations have agreed to purchase the export surplus of oils in 1944.



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Pharmacists have always been able to place complete confidence in drugs and chemicals which bear the B.D.H. label. To-day, after more than four years of war, B.D.H. standards of quality and purity remain unchanged. B.D.H. drugs and chemicals are

still prepared with the same scrupulous care, and every ingredient is subjected to exacting tests before use.

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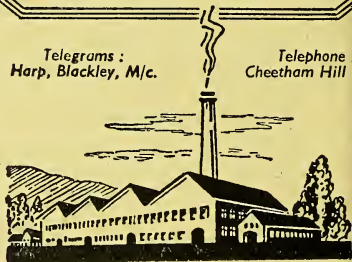
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Commencing business in 1867 as one of the pioneers of Tar Acid Refining, when a production of 20 tons per annum of Phenol was an achievement, it has grown to an output reckoned in many hundred of tons, taking a prominent part in the Romance of the Development of this field of Tar Products.

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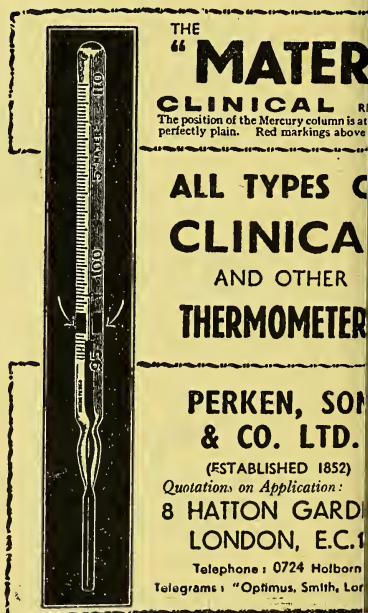


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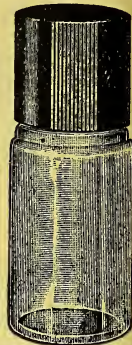
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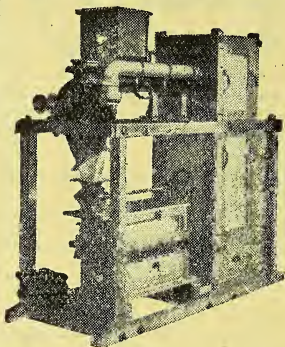
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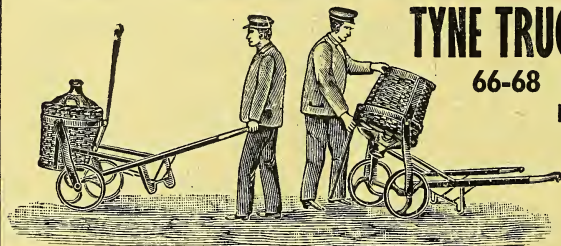


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The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

SUPPLEMENT

This Supplement is inserted in every copy of the Chemist & Druggist

JULY 8
1944

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